FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 NOVEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Israeli Air Strike — The Israeli Air Force attacked a "terrorist base" in the Al-Biqa' valley belonging to "organizations linked to Iran," an IDF spokesman cited by IDF Radio said on 16 November. Beirut radio reported that the attack was against two camps that belonged to the Islamic Amal Movement. The Voice of Lebanon radio added that two ammunition depots were destroyed in the raids.

Military Developments — Following the air raid, Israeli aircraft overflew southern Lebanon, Beirut, and the north, including Tripoli, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Meanwhile, U.S. aircraft continued overflights of Beirut and the mountain region, Beirut radio said.

In Beirut bombs exploded near French contingent positions on Sabra Street and near the At-Turk Hospital, but neither caused human losses, Beirut radio reported. Southern Beirut and several other suburbs were shelled intermittently, the radio added, while the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that "communists, leftists, and Khomeyniites" continued to reinforce their positions in the southern suburb. In the mountain area, Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Khaldah were subjected to "concentrated" shelling that the Army returned, Beirut radio stated.

According to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio, the "Lebanese national resistance" attacked an Israeli position near Tyre, killing at least three soldiers. Beirut radio reported that an Israeli patrol was ambushed south of Tyre, while IDF Radio said one Israeli soldier was injured when his vehicle was fired on east of Tyre.

Radio Free Lebanon reported that Syrian forces have completed the deployment of an "advanced Soviet missile network," linked to Syrian headquarters in Shtawrah and Damascus, on the Sannin and Az-Za'rur hills.

Political Developments — Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Beirut on 16 November, Radio Free Lebanon announced, 1 day earlier than predicted by Beirut radio. Radio Monte Carlo said Khaddam was meeting with President al-Jumayyil in the president's home. Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt arrived in Jordan on 15 November, according to the *AD-DUSTUR*. Earlier, on returning to Lebanon from a visit to Damascus, Junblatt warned that "the war will be resumed" if no solutions, "or at least a serious cease-fire," appear "by the end of the month," the Voice of Arab Lebanon reported.

PLO Affairs

North Lebanon Military Situation — Forces opposed to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat took control of the Al-Baddawi camp on 16 November, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing a REUTER dispatch. 'Arafat's fighters in the camp repulsed three attacks by "Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents" the previous day, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. Turbul Voice of the Palestinian Revolution and Damascus radio denied that As-Sa'iqah commander Salih al-Ma'ani or PFLP-GC leader Ahmad Jibril were hit in the fighting, refuting earlier Baghdad Voice of PLO claims.

Related Developments — The attack on the PLO loyalist forces in Tripoli is the result of an "American-Syrian deal" just as the Israeli invasion last year followed an "American-Israeli agreement," PLO leader 'Arafat charged in an interview broadcast by Paris radio. In another interview with the Italian communist daily *L'UNITA*, reported by ANSA, 'Arafat said 3,000 Lebanese and Palestinians have been killed or wounded in the fighting around Tripoli. In Damascus, PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum called for an end to the fighting and for the convocation of a PLO Executive Committee meeting attended by all members, including 'Arafat, KUNA reported. Despite his recent call for a "collective" PLO leadership — reported by Turbul radio — Al-Fahum told KUNA that "nobody can strip Yasir 'Arafat of his legitimacy as chairman of the PLO."

Meanwhile, the PLO representative in Bonn warned that the PLO may support opposition movements in Syria and Libya if the latter continue to put military pressure on the PLO, according to DPA. A Baghdad Voice of PLO commentary likewise told "traitors and agents in the Syrian regime" that the battle will not remain within the limits they have set. "We will fight you, agents, in Damascus and in all the Syrian cities," the radio proclaimed.

Syria

Foreign Minister Khaddam, in a political statement to the People's Assembly broadcast by Damascus television, blamed 'Arafat for exacerbating the Fatah dispute by ordering the physical liquidation of his opponents in Al-Baddawi. Syria has proof that 'Arafat plans to sign an agreement empowering the Jordanian regime to negotiate with Israel, Khaddam indicated. He deplored the "campaign of lies and incrimination against Syria" over its role in the dispute and reaffirmed Syria's view that no Arab side has the right to act independently in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israel

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the magazine *YOMAN HASHAVU'A* — as reported by Jerusalem radio — that he has "invited" King Husayn to pay an official visit to Jerusalem to begin negotiations on a "peace agreement." Regarding Syria, Shamir told a political meeting that "war is not expected" and that the Soviets are not leaving Syria, but "consolidating there," the radio added. In another development, the United States has asked Israel to pass on data about "terrorist targets in Lebanon" for possible use in retaliation for attacks on U.S. Marines in Lebanon, according to the radio.

Iran

Support for Syria — The Foreign Ministry released a statement, reported by IRNA, "strongly condemning" U.S. and Israeli "threats" against Syria "and other revolutionary forces in Lebanon" and statingthat Iran would "defend the legitimate rights" of the Syrians, Palestinians, and Lebanese and exert "all means at its disposal to totally drive the aggressive forces out of the region."

Operation Against "Counterrevolutionaries" — A military communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces began an operation to "cut off communication links" between the Iraqi forces and the "armed assailants" in the northern border region between Sar Dasht and Marivan, "liberating" 19 important heights and 27 villages and capturing the border road used by "counterrevolutionaries" to receive supplies from Iraq.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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REUTER Cited on Occupation of Al-Baddawi

JN161219 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] An urgent dispatch by REUTER from northern Lebanon reports that the forces opposed to Yasir 'Arafat's leadership, which are backed by the Syrian forces, occupied Al-Baddawi camp, north of Tripoli, at 1100 in the wake of intensive shelling which has been going on since early this morning. The forces loyal to 'Arafat withdrew to positions in Tripoli.

The REUTER correspondent, who was able to enter the camp after it was occupied, stated that the forces of Ahmad Jibril, leader of the PFLP-GC, were the ones to carry out the final assault on Al-Baddawi. REUTER adds that the dissident forces do not intend to enter Tripoli and called on the leaders of the city to try to convince the forces loyal to 'Arafat to refrain from opening fire on the dissident forces.

Voice of Lebanon Report

NC161241 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1226 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Reports from the north confirm that the Al-Baddawi camp has fallen to the dissidents, but the loyalists have so far said nothing about this. Earlier reports from the north said that the clashes eased somewhat at noon after heavy fighting in the camp in the morning. The Syrian artillery in Al-Kurah, however, is still shelling the area of the clashes at the rate of two shells every 5 minutes.

On the Turbul Mountain axis, the dissidents have taken control of the hills surrounding the government hospital and their firepower now controls the areas of Al-Malluli and Abu 'Ali as well as the roads linking Tripoli with Al-Baddawi.

Hundreds of 'Arafat loyalist armed men, who bore the brunt of the attacks, moved on to Tripoli after leaving their forward positions which surround the Al-Baddawi camp.

Baghdad PLO Updates Military Situation 15 Nov

JN151621 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Brothers, here is a report on the military situation:

Our forces in the Al-Baddawi camp have repulsed three offensives by the Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents against Palestinian civilians and the positions of the Palestinian revolution. Fierce clashes are still raging betwen our forces and the special forces which the Syrian regime sent along with the Libyan forces to attack the Palestinian camp.

Meanwhile, AFP reported today that Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar made several tours of Al-Baddawi camp to inspect the postions of the fighters while the Palestinian camp was being subjected to violent shelling from Syrian artillery, rockets, and tanks.

A responsible source in the Palestinian Revolution Command stated the following:

At 0700 today the Syrian special forces launched a large-scale attack on Al-Baddawi camp from three main axes: the oil refinery axis, the Al-Kassarat axis, and the Al-Fawwar-Al-'Ayruniyah axis. Some 60 Syrian tanks took part in this attack which was carried out under heavy rocket fire. The Syrian forces removed the Hittin forces' opposite the camp last night and replaced them with three battalions of the Syrian special forces after the Hittin forces' officers and men had refused to attack the camp.

Our forces are confronting this large-scale offensive. They are now being subjected to artillery and rocket fire from Syrian guns which are stationed in Al-Majdaliyah, Ad-Dinayah, Turbul, Amyun, and Qasr ad-Duwayhi.

The general command of the Palestinian revolution forces announces to the masses of the Arab nation that the Syrian command, following the failure of its agent cliques and the refusal by the Hittin forces to attack the camp, is now directly conducting the battles with the help of the Syrian special forces which are carrying out the attack. The Palestinian revolution holds the Syrian leadership responsible for this criminal aggression against our people, masses, and the PLO. We pledge to our masses to continue to confront this aggression, which tries to achieve what Sharon could not achieve by his invasion of Lebanon.

Reports say that shells are falling on Al-Baddawi camp at the rate of 30 per minute. The shells hit houses in the camp and Wadi an-Nahlah. Shells are also heavily falling on Bab at-Tabbanih, Al-Qubbah, Al-Mina', and Az-Zahiriyah. There were many dead and wounded

AFP also reported that Salah al-Ma'ani, commander of the Syrian As-Sa'iqah forces, was killed on the approaches of Al-Baddawi camp and that agent Ahmad Jibril was wounded in the head and is now being treated in Zagharta Hospital near Tripoli. Ghazi Kan'an, the commander of the Syrian forces, was also wounded while leading an offensive on Al-Baddawi camp.

Beirut reports said this afternoon that the Syrian forces and their agents have failed to enter Al-Baddawi camp despite Syrian claims that they have entered it.

Correspondent on 'Syrian Offensive'

JN151736 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Radio correspondent's recorded dispatch]

[Text] Why has the Syrian regime resumed the battles in the north in such a violent and savage manner? The reason is that the last chapters of the plot against the Palestinian revolution have not been completed. Therefore, the attempts by the Damascus regime and its agents will not stop, especially after many of the masks that regime had worn in the various stages of its

greater plot had been burned. The most significant of these masks was its false concern about the Palestinian revolution.

After the Palestinian issue had been completely decided in favor of the PLO and independent Palestinian decisionmaking on the public, political, and all other levels, and after the world had become convinced that what is taking place is not an inter-Palestinian conflict but premeditated external aggression against the PLO, and after the Palestinian masses announced from the heart of Damascus their loyalty to and soldiarity with the PLO under the leadership of Abu 'Ammar and paid the price for this courageous commitment in scores of martyrs and hundreds of detainess and displaced people — after all that, the Damascus regime found itself in a race with time. It had stupidly imagined that it could quickly overrun the revolution and create new faits accomplis before the world, despite the strengthened position of the PLO and its leader. Therefore, in a reckless attempt to achieve quick results, the Syrian regime removed the Hittin forces from the frontline positions, after many of the officers and men of these forces heeded their conscience, responded to the appeals of the martyrs of Al-Yarmuk camp, and refused to fight their own brothers. The Syrians replaced them with units from the Syrian special forces, which engaged directly in the fighting. These Syrian units were reinforced by large numbers of armored cars and backed by heavy artillery cover, which shows how desperate the Damascus rulers are in achieving quick results.

The details of the battles which took place last night, this morning, and until now, 1630 Palestine time, are contained in the series of communiques issued by the command headquarters in Tripoli and contained in our previous report. The attackers lost a considerable number of their forces which attacked Al-Baddawi. Some 59 were captured and an equal number killed. It is believed that Salah al-Ma'ani, a commander of the Syrian As-Sa'iqah forces, is among the dead. There are also unconfirmed reports that Ahmad Jibril and Colonel Ghazi Kan'an, head of the Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, were wounded.

As this dispatch was being prepared at 1630 Palestine time, Al-Baddawi camp and its environs were still being subjected to heavy shelling. Our brothers in Tripoli told us in a telephone call that they expect a greater escalation of the battles. However, our heroic fighters, who are defending their people, revolution, and independent national decisionmaking are putting up a fierce and courageous resistance.

They have succeeded in stopping the advances on all axes. They have also succeeded in besieging several groups of the attacking forces in an area close to Al-Baddawi camp. These groups tried to enter the camp.

Our brothers in the north also said that the initial results of today's battles have so far been impressive. Heavy losses have been inflicted on the attacking forces. These forces have been forced to withdraw from many of the positions which they occupied in the first wave of attack. A new major position was also besieged a short while ago on one of the offensive axes of the Syrian forces and their agents.

Turbul VOPR: 'Arafat Offensive Repulsed 15 Nov

NC151600 Turbul Lebanon Voice of the Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpt] In retaliation for the wide-scale 'Arafatite aggression this morning, the forces of the revolution and uprising pursued the 'Arafatite remnants and controlled all the heights surrounding the camp. These forces also controlled the approaches to the camp and one of the 'Arafatite security centers. In their advance, the revolution forces are making great efforts to ensure the safety of our people.

Our military correspondent says that the revolution forces took the necessary steps to enable our kinfolk in the camp to keep away from the areas of clashes, although the 'Arafatite forces made no efforts whatsoever in this regard.

Denies Ma'ani Killed, Jibril Wounded

NC151436 Turbul Lebanon Voice of the Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1419 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Comrade Talib Abu 'Adil, the spokesman for the As-Sa'iqah forces, has categorically denied the fabricated report, broadcast by Monte Carlo Radio at noon today, concerning Comrade Colonel Salah Ma'ani, the commander of the As-Sa'iqah forces. Comrade Abu 'Abid emphasized that this report is untrue, part and parcel, and that Comrade Ma'ani is carrying out his command duties as usual.

The spokesman for the As-Sa'iqah forces pointed out that the fabrication of this report by the 'Arafat clique and its dissemination by French Monte Carlo radio is an indication of the unethical standard of the 'Arafite clique.

On the other hand, the military correspondent of the Voice of the Revolution radio says that Comrade Ahmad Jibril, the secretary general of the PFLP-GC, is carrying out his leadership duties as usual and that the report broadcast by Monte Carlo Radio about him is untrue.

PFLP-GC Spokesman Summarizes 15 Nov Battles

JN152236 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 15 Nov (SANA) — The PFLP-GC has said that since yesterday evening the 'Arafat-Al-Wazir gang has been violating the cease-fire and has opened fire with its automatic guns, artillery,and rockets at the forces of the uprising movement and its allies in the Al-Baddawi camp area north of Tripoli. PFLP-GC official spokesman Fadl Shururu said in a statement here today that the PFLP-GC was obliged to retaliate for this shelling and was able to recapture its base in the Al-Baddawi camp in which 'Arafat's gang had committed the massacre and also to capture the [name indistinct] hill, As-Sa'iqah hill, and the Arab Liberation Front base with the aid of the Fatah uprising movement and its allies. The PFLP-GC pursued 'Arafat's remnants and gang to the south of Al-Baddawi camp.

Shururu added: We contacted a number of Tripoli personages and asked them to intervene in order to prevent 'Arafat from opening fire. However, the shelling continued without a stop until this morning, forcing our forces to advance toward Al-Baddawi camp and to capture these places. Shururu pointed out that these operations were carried out without losses and without inflicting any human or material losses on the camp. He said that the information media can go to these places to verify what he said.

Shururu warned 'Arafat and his gang against continuing to shell the positions of the uprising movement and its allies from the center of Tripoli and said: We will let the Nationalist Movement and personages in Tripoli act in order to deter 'Arafat and his gang.

He added: Our retaliation today was restricted to striking at 'Arafat's remnants at [name indistinct] in order to let him know that we are able to reach the center of the city. What prevents us from acting as such is our concern about not shedding blood in this struggling city.

Concluding his statement, Shururu affirmed that the battles still continue in the Al-Baddawi camp.

Andropov's Messages to 'Arafat, Al-Asad Quoted

GF151818 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 14 Nov 83 pp 1, 23

['Amid ash-Shanti report]

[Excerpt] *AL-QABAS* has received information on the contents of three messages which have been sent by Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat on "the real Soviet stand" on the battles in northern Lebanon and the Syrian-Palestinian dispute. Here are some of the contents of these messages:

One of these messages from the Soviet leader to President al-Asad said: "It has been proved to the Soviet people that Syria has participated in the fighting going on in northern Lebanon and that the Syrian Government could at least stop this fighting."

The message adds: "The Soviet people give arms to be used against the Arabs' enemies and not to fight other Arabs or the Palestinians."

Andropov affirmed his country's stand in a message to 'Arafat, which emphasizes the PLO's unity under its leader Yasir 'Arafat, and "this is a firm and steadfast stand." He also affirmed "that the continued Syrian-Palestinian dispute threatens the Palestinian people's achievements and Syria's interests." The Soviet Union believes that "it is in everyone's interest for the PLO to remain independent and not have its internal affairs interfered in by various other Arabs."

One of the three messages affirmed that "Syria is a basic foundation for the Palestinian resistance due to its proximity to the occupied territories and that it is necessary to restore Syrian-Palestinian understanding so that the Palestinian issue remains firm."

Andropov called on the Palestinian leadership, and Fatah's leaders in particular, to improve their relations with Syria to restore Arab solidarity against Israel.

There are other provisions in the messages which should not published at present.

The press attache at the Soviet Embassy told *AL-QABAS* that the Soviet Embassy cannot issue a statement or explanation on these messages.

In a telephone conversation with *AL-QABAS*, Syrian Ambassador 'Isa Darwish said that there is no mediation going on between Damascus and Moscow within the fullest meaning of that word but that there is continued dialogue on all issues relating to Middle East, the foremost of which being the Palestinian issue.

'Arafat Forces Receiving Heavy Weaponry

NC151330 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1218 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpts] A Palestinian source loyal to 'Arafat has been quoted as saying that the dissident forces backed by Syria have advanced to within a few hundred meters from the northern entrance to the Al-Baddawi camp. The source said that the dissidents have overrun the northern periphery of the camp from the petroleum refinery and the occupied Fatah Security office.

In the meantime, for a few days now ships have been unloading heavy weapons for 'Arafat. These weapons have been distributed in Tripoli and Al-Baddawi. Informed security sources say that 'Arafat has rockets weighing 1,000 kg [sawarikhmin wazn] and that arms have been distributed to the people in the At-Tabbanah quarter. Reports affirm that Muslim Brotherhood members and Syrians, wanted by the regime in Damascus, are among the fighters of the Islamic Unification Movement.

It has been noticed that a number of Palestinians, who had arrived in Tripoli from Aden and Tunis before the clashes erupted, are leaving the city by sea. 'Arafat has organized teams to chase the deserters from the front to bring them back.

'Arafat Aide on Possible PLO Offensive

NC151533 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] 'Abdallah al-Ifranji, Yasir 'Arafat's aide and senior PLO representative in northern Europe, today said that the PLO might resort to an offensive if the rebels backed by Syria try to destroy it. He added that the PLO has 10,000 fighters in Tripoli and that defeating Yasir 'Arafat's forces would take 3 months.

'Arafat's aide went on to say that the PLO is prepared to support opposition elements in Syria, something it has refrained from doing so far.

Sources at Sayyidat Zgharta hospital denied reports carried by foreign news agencies from Tunis this afternoon that Ahmad Jibril, the secretary general of PFLP - GC, has been moved to

the hospital after being hit in the Al-Baddawi battle. The hospital's administration told the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY that 10 wounded were moved to the As-Sayyidah hospital in Zgharta, but that Ahmad Jibril was not among them.

Concerning the news agencies reports, which have been quoting the office staff of Salah Khalaf Abu Iyad, in Tunis, that Syrian Colonel Ghazi Kan'an was wounded, informed sources in the north said that Col Kan'an is in Shtawrah and that he did not go to the north.

Kuwaiti Envoy Sees Habash, Khaddam on Cease-Fire

LD151612 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1540 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 15 Nov (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Ambassador to Syria 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Kundari today met here with PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash in the presence of a number of the Front's Political Bureau. The ambassador said "the meeting falls within the framework of efforts exerted by Kuwait to stress to the Palestinian leadership the need for adherance by all parties to the cease-fire."

Dr Habash affirmed "the need for all the warring sides to cease firing in preparation for a political dialogue leading to the solution of all inter-Palestinian differences."

The Kuwaiti ambassador will meet tomorrow with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam for the same reason.

PFLP's Habash Calls for New PLO Structure

LD151221 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1048 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Talal Kayid dispatch]

[Text] Damascus, 15 Nov (KUNA) — The PFLP has reiterated its opposition to the fratricide between the pro- and anti-'Arafat forces and affirmed its adherance to the unity of the PLO and its institutions and the independence and effectiveness of Palestinian national decisionmaking. The PFLP secretary general, Dr George Habash, stated that his Front supports the struggle for democratic reform within the PLO provided this is done through the PLO's legitimate bodies and in accordance with its internal laws and democratic traditions and not through fighting. In an interview with KUNA here today, Habash called for a vital change in the leading institutions and the creation of a new structure which would insure the rejuvenation of the PLO and the continuation of the revolution. However, he added, recourse to arms for solving differences within the national ranks can never lead to anything but harm for the revolution. Furthermore, he added, the use of arms will not solve these differences but will complicate them even further and expose the revolution more and more to strikes by the enemy forces.

Dr Habash opposed any call for an extraordinary meeting of the PNC, which is the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, unless all Palestinian differences are solved. He added that his Front's opposition to this stems from its anxiousness to preserve the unity of the PLO and national unity. However, Dr Habash called for a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee as a first step to discuss the current developments on the Palestinian arena. He added that in light of the results of these discussions, it would be decided whether to call for the meeting of the Central Council and then the PNC.

Dr Habash said that the law which should govern relations within the national framework of the allied forces in the fight against the enemy was the law of alliance and conflict. He added that the struggle between the democratic forces within the unified framework can be accomplished through political and organizational struggle and not through violence. Despite the slowness of such a process, he said, it is the process that can insure the gradual change in the internal balance of power without harming the national struggle against the enemy and without any danger of retreat, division, liquidation, or containment.

With regard to the violation of the cease-fire in Tripoli, Dr Habash said: "I wish the cease-fire had held so that we can have a serious and responsible dialogue leading to reform of the PLO politically, militarily, financially, and organizationally in a manner which would safeguard its unity and the independence of its national decisionmaking." He pointed out that no cease-fire agreement could hold without winning the conviction of the warring sides "and any help from us or from a Palestinian joint force will only act as a catalyst pushing toward a serious responsible and immediate dialogue aimed at the implementation of the program of unity and reform put forward by the joint leadership of the PFLP and DFLP commands."

With regard to calls made by some resistance groups for the withdrawal of legitimacy from Yasir 'Arafat and the call by other groups for his resignation, Dr Habash said: "We strive for democratic reform within the PLO and consider such reform a basis for the preservation of PLO unity and for the safeguarding of its independence and effectiveness." He added: "We have defended and shall continue to defend the need for fighting the battle with all its dimensions for the building of such foundation, but this should be done through the PLO's legitimate bodies, internal laws, and democratic tradition."

With regard to attempts being made to heal their rift within Fatah and improve relations with Syria, Dr Habash said: "Our Front and other Palestinian groups have exerted great efforts to resolve these differences within the Fatah movement to safeguard its unity and bring about radical changes. Our aim was to keep the door for dialogue open and prevent resort to arms."

Expressing his regret at the fratricide, Dr Habash said that the PFLP had lent support to a memorandum prepared by a team belonging to the PNC setting the bases on which such reform could be carried out and stressing the unity of Fatah. However, he added, "matters exploded anew in a serious manner in the camps in the north thereby obstructing the implementation of the memorandum." With regard to the Palestinian-Syrian relations, Dr Habash said: "We believe in the need for the rectification of these relations and the creation of a solid alliance based on the program of confrontation against the Zionists and imperialists. We believe that our efforts and those of the others in this field will manifest themselves positively following the solving of conflicts in the Palestinian arena."

Dr Habash blamed the anti-'Arafat movement for the fratricide in northern Lebanon though he did not exonerate 'Arafat's leadership from responsibility for some bloody events and liquidations that took place prior to the fratricide. He said: "We hold the dissenters responsible for starting the fighting at Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. But the other side resorted to military methods before that."

With regard to the American-Israeli threats of aggression against the PLO and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces and Syria, Dr Habash said: "The American Administration has driven tension in the world and in the Middle East to the brink of inflamation. It is drawing upplans with the Zionist entity to impose its full control over the region. Now the United States and Israel are preparing to deal a military blow to the PLO, Syria, and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces in order to destroy them as national forces which, by their alliance, constitute an obstacle in the way of the American-Israeli plans or at least to subdue them to their plan."

In conclusion, he reaffirmed that "our region and forces will not enable the U.S. Administration, its fleet, or the Zionist enemy to achieve their objectives. We will fight these designs, together with Syria and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces, and the aggressors will pay a high price for their adventure."

PNC Chairman al-Fahum Discusses PLO Crisis

NC141541 Turbul Lebanon Voice of the Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1345 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum has described the PLO's current crisis as the biggest since its establishment. He said that the way out of this crisis is to establish a collective leadership of the PLO. Al-Fahum added that the reasons for the disagreement within Fatah are deep rooted, that the disagreement did not start in May this year but that it has actually existed for several years. Al-Fahum added that what has recently happened is actually a political disagreement on the interpretation of the Palestinian bodies' decisions in addition to the current laxity in the PLO. Brother al-Fahum further said: We have exerted great efforts to heal the rift because of our eagerness to safeguard the unity of Fatah and consequently to preserve the unity of the PLO within its political and sound organizational frameworks. However, these efforts have not yet, regrettably, achieved much success. We cannot say we have failed. We must continue our efforts because the alternative is the division of the PLO, which means its end.

Al-Fahum went on: We must continue the efforts to keep the PLO strong and cohesive, as the only representative of the Palestinian Arab people. He expressed his belief that Fatah must be reorganized on clear bases in accordance with the PNC resolutions and the Palestine National Charter. These are the bases which will unite us if we are sincere and if we abide by them. He also said: To overcome the current crisis, it is essential to abide by the controls represented in literal adherence to the letter and spirit by the Palestine National Charter and the National Council's resolutions. It is also essential that the PLO's leadership be collective, enabling consultations within the PLO's institutions. The PLO institutions must not remain neglected and no person or group of persons must control the PLO.

Answering a question on authorizing King Husayn of Jordan to negotiate in the name of the Palestinians, Al-Fahum emphasized that the PLO is the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He said: We adhere to this status. This is not a personal opinion but is the unanimous decision of the Palestinian people in all the national councils and the Palestine National Charter. Al-Fahum added: The moment the PLO authorizes King Husayn or anybody else to speak in its name or on its behalf, it would end. This is 100 percent contrary to the PLO's charter and resolutions. He further said: Any talk about the establishment of a federation or a confederation with Jordan before the establishment of the independent Palestinian state of the Palestinian people restricts the PLO and is totally rejected as circumventing the Palestinian people's rights.

Al-Fahum condemned U.S. press reports about the U.S. intention to establish a Jordanian rapid deployment force under U.S. command. He asked: Of what interest is it to Palestine or the Arab nation that an Arab force should be placed under the command of the United States, the greatest enemy of the Palestinian people and Arab questions?

'Arafat Interviewed on Seige, Other Topics

Paris Radio

LD152352 Paris Domestic Service in French 1822 GMT 15 Nov 83

[From the "Facing the Public" program presented by Yves Loiseau; interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Rene Backman of *LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR*, Jean-Paul Cosman of *LE MATIN*, Thierry de Ciquivaut of TF-1, and Dominique Roc of Radio France Internationale; 'Arafat's remarks in English with superimposed French translation; date and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Loiseau] Today here you are in school, in a small school in Tripoli, and one has the impression that you have lost a large part of your power. What do you feel this evening?

['Arafat] You have to remember that when I went to the United Nations I was living in a cave in southern Lebanon; so it is not a matter of where you start from but where you are going, your aim. My target is not this school; it is not Beirut or Tripoli: My target is Jerusalem.

[Loiseau] When will you be going there, do you think?

['Arafat] You know, I am someone who believes in history. Sooner or later we will achieve our goal. However, we know that we are faced with very difficult circumstances. And then there were the Camp David agreements with Egypt, which means that the whole of Egypt, with all its weight, is outside. We are trying to bring our Egyptian brothers back, to persuade them to use all their weight again.

We have difficulties with the Syrians. I am now under siege and being attacked by the Syrians and Libyans. At the same time I

am also beseiged by the Israeli Navy. But it is very important to know why they are all around me: It is because there is an American-Syrian agreement. Last year there was an American-Israeli agreement to destroy the PLO — to destroy the PLO in 2, 3 or 5 days — and you saw what happened. Where is Haig, this Haig who organized all this aggression? Where is Haig? Where is Sharon? Where is Begin?

When I left Beirut I mentioned something very important about a volcano, a volcano that had already erupted in Beirut. This volcano will erupt up again in Beirut. You have witnessed an economic disaster in Israel. Begin has been forced to resign. A war of attrition is being waged by the Lebanese, by the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces against the Israelis, and the Americans... [translator pauses]

Mr Reagan thought it would be a picnic. He was forced to bring in all his Marines, the *New Jersey*, and very important units of Marines to the eastern Mediterranean.

This volcano is erupting in Beirut, in the mountains, in Tripoli. What will happen afterward? Nobody knows, but remember this volcano — it will not go out. It will destroy the American interests, which are at the origin of this conspiracy and which are pulling the strings of this conspiracy against the Palestinians and against the Arabs. Perhaps occasionally they succeed in achieving agreements, with the Syrians or Sharon or Begin. It has never lasted. With power you can control, but only for a short period. Power does not allow long-term control. Hitler invaded France. Where is he now? This is very important.

[Loiseau] Rene Backman of *LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR*, you have a question.

[Backman] Mr Chairman, you are speaking as if a deal has been concluded between the Syrians and the Americans. I would like you to tell me if you think that there really was a deal and, if such a thing exists, what kind of deal is it, and what is at stake in this deal?

['Arafat] No, I did not say that. The majority of the American mass media have been talking about it, and speaking in detail about this deal. When Khaddam went on a visit for the opening of the UN session, he was not alone; he was accompanied by General Shihabi, who stayed in the United States over 3 weeks to discuss the deal in detail. Even some American officials spoke about it. The big quarrel between Shultz and the White House unmasked this deal, because it was not done through Shultz but through McFarlane. It is not I who am saying this; it is they who have revealed it all. These are facts, the reality.

I have every reason to be worried, because I have not forgotten the Sabra and Shatila massacres. When we left Beirut I had a written agreement with a superpower and two big powers who were witnesses and guarantors of that agreement — the Italians and the French. What happened? There was the massacre of Sabra and Shatila, and before that, the massacre of Tal az-Za'tar. So all this must be borne in mind when discussing with anyone.

[Loiseau] In the second part of this broadcast, Mr Chairman, we would like to deal with the question of what journalists call, perhaps conveniently, dissidents. Information has reached Europe in recent months about suicides among the Palestine fighters received by Algeria and Tunisia. I have two questions on this subject. The first: Is the information about the suicides true? The second: Don't you think that the unease felt by the fighters is the real source of the dissidence?

['Arafat] In their opinion they have been used by the Syrians and Libyans to control the PLO or, failing that, to damage the glorious image of our heroes in Beirut, and that of the miracle of the 88 days of Beirut, the longest Israeli-Arab war. This is a big conspiracy by the Libyans and Syrians against our people, because they want to use the Palestinian card as one of their cards in the Middle East. It is against this that we are struggling. We will fight to defend our independence, the independence of our political decision.

[Unidentified Questioner] Don't you find it strange, nevertheless, that in a revolutionary movement one should be speaking of loyalists and dissidents.

['Arafat] No, it is not a matter of loyalists and dissidents. They are puppets who are being used by the invader, but they will not be able to stop the course of history. They are trying, but they will not succeed, because our revolution is the will, the strong will, of our people. I hope you will be able to go to our occupied territories and you will see how the masses are supporting the PLO, outside the occupied territories too.

We have excellent communications with the whole world. Just now, before my arrival here, I received a phone call from King Fahd. I am in permanent contact with all the Arab leaders, with officials of the Nonaligned Movement, and with some socialist countries. You know that 3 days ago I sent a special message to President Mitterrand, and I have received a reply.

No solution, no stability, no peace, no settlement in this area can exclude the PLO, which represents the Palestinian people — 5 million Palestinians — and its Executive Committee. I do not occupy my post through a military coup; I am here by Palestinian democracy, and we are very proud of it. Some Arab regimes who are against our democracy are trying to put difficulties before it, but believe me, we will continue our democracy in spite of all the difficulties, in spite of all the obstacles put in our way.

[Domonique Roc] Are you going to call a general congress of Fatah soon?

['Arafat] Yes, we have already announced it: We will hold a Fatah congress at the beginning of next year. We will also hold a PNC meeting, possibly before or after that.

[Loiseau] We have chosen a question, so to speak, about your international status. A short time ago we recalled your appearance at the United Nations in 1974. You have become one of the key players in what is called the Near East issue, but are you not now placing too much confidence in diplomacy? For example, you have been talking about all the telephone conversations you have with world leaders. Are you not placing too much confidence in diplomacy?

['Arafat] First, according to the UN Charter, it is my duty to use every method: political, diplomatic and military means, the mass media, and economic measures too. We have problems in the economic sphere. We are the only revolution that is obliged to worry about economic management. We have to look after the economic situation of our people.

[Jean-Paul Gosman] Is a Fatah delegation going to Moscow soon?

['Arafat] Yes, yes. Yesterday Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] contacted me to tell me that he had contacts with the Soviet Union and that a PLO delegation will go to Moscow within a week.

[Unidentified questioner] What differences do you see between the war in which you faced the Israelis last year and the one this year in which you are facing the Syrians and the Libyans?

['Arafat] It is the same American conspiracy. Last year I faced an American-Israeli agreement, which had been prepared in advance of the war. All the plans had been arranged between General Haig and Sharon, ratified by the Pentagon and the Israeli military junta. Today, unfortunately, I am confronted by what I would not call an agreement but a deal, an American-Syrian deal.

[Loiseau] Mr Chairman, two questions, one of them indiscreet. What did President Mitterrand reply to you? The second: How do you explain the fact that the Soviet Union supports you and Syria at the same time?

['Arafat] First of all, it is not up to me to mention what he wrote. I will satisfy myself simply with saying that I thank the French president for the public declaration he made during his visit to Tunisia. On my own behalf, and on behalf of my people, I wish President Mitterrand every success.

As for the second part of your question, our friends in the Soviet Union are in a very difficult situation because they are caught between their Palestinian friends and their Syrian allies. This is not an easy situation, but according to my information, during Khaddam's latest visit to Moscow, this problem was discussed in a very profound way. I think that what was said about it does not give a true reflection of what took place.

[Unidentified questioner] Mr Chairman, can we go on to France's role in the Near East? Could you give us some details about how you see things?

['Arafat] You see, France can play an extremely important role in this Middle East crisis. I still remmeber how I refused to leave Beirut except under France's guarantee in the first place. They tried to say: No, not France first. I said: Yes, yes, the French first. Why? Because I believe in the important role of the French Government in this area. It has an important role in the EEC. It has friends everywhere — in Africa, Latin America, even in Canada, in Quebec. I cannot fail to remember the very important initiative that the French Government gook on the Palestinian problem, the initiative France took to the Security Council last year with the Egyptians. I hope the French Government will take up this initiative again with the Security Coucnil. It is very important. In my opinion, France has a very large role to play, and I hope it will fulfill it.

Comments in L'UNITA

AU151614 Rome ANSA in English 1545 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, November 15 — In an interview to the Italian Communist Party daily *"L'UNITA"*, Yasir 'Arafat today said that his forces have been combatting the open aggression of Syria and Libya since May 9th and that this aggression seeks to limit Palestinian national independence and "condition our struggle for a return to the homeland to decide our destiny and to build a free, independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital".

The chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organization is currently besieged with forces loyal to him in the Northern Lebanese city of Tripoli where he granted this interview. He launched accusations against the United States for being the protagonist of this great offensive against the Palestinian People, against the Israelis who are the instruments of this offensive and, above all, against the Syrians who are read to perpetrate "the most horrible massacres" so as to have military dominion over the city of Tripoli and the camps there. He rejected Syrian affirmation that the fighting underway in Northern Lebanon is between Palestinians in conflict with one another. "The truth is that the Syrian and Libyan regimes are in war against us with all their military weight and with all the strength in the field of mass media. They are trying to annihilate us. They bomb us from all sides, thereby completing the seige Israel began from the sea," the PLO chairman insisted.

The PLO chairman said that the situation in the Palestinian camps around Tripoli was truly dramatic. People are not only dying from the shells but from hunger and disease, he went on. The Lebanese and Palestinian casualties, counting dead and wounded, number 3,000, he said.

Asked if he thought it was possible to consolidate the fragile truce in force for the last few days, 'Arafat responded affirmatively, even though he said, "we are completely skeptical about the intentions of Syria and its partner Libya".

With regard to the position taken by the Soviet Union, 'Arafat said that this was not the first time that the USSR found itself in an embarrassing situation because of its Syrian ally. He said that in the last meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and his Syrian counterpart 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Soviets had urged the Syrians to respect Palestinian rights, the PLO leadership and the decisions taken at the last meeting of the Palestinian National Council but that the Syrians refused to listen to any but their own views. 'Arafat attributed this Syrian "deafness" to a friendly nation, or to other Arab Palestinian or international powers, to the recent success of the White House with regard to Damascus where Syrian-American relations are shining with a new brilliance and where American influence is growing over Syria, he claimed.

'Arafat wound up by saying that Italy exerts a direct and weighty influence on all Middle East problems and that therefore he awaits broader political action on the part of the Italian Government, and also "from the Vatican and his Holiness John Paul the second".

Another Italian daily published an interview with 'Arafat today: the socialist party daily *"AVANTI."*

'Arafat Receives Message From Indira Gandhi

GF152020 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1955 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 15 Nov (WAKH) — The Palestinian news agency, WAFA, reports that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has received a message from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi affirming her country's and the nonaligned countries' support for the united PLO under his legitimate leadership and reiterating her total support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and return. The message was conveyed by Indian Ambassador to Tunisia Joseph Thomas during his meeting with PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi in Tunis today.

It is worth noting that Prime Minister Gandhi today called for an urgent meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's committee on Palestine at the foreign ministers level to be held on Friday to discuss the new developments in northern Lebanon. WAFA said Qaddumi will lead the Palestinian delegation to these meeting, which will include India, Algeria, Bangladesh, Cuba, Senegal, the SFRY, and Zambia.

PLO Envoy Urges Arab League, UN Intervention

LD151444 Hamburg DPA in German 1315 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Bonn, 15 Nov (DPA) The majority of the PLO who were "rallied around PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat" have announced continued resolute resistance against Syria and the PLO rebels. The PLO representative in Bonn, 'Abdullah al-Franji, told journalists today on his return from a conference of leading PLO representatives in Tunis that 'Arafat and his loyal units would be able to hold out for 3 months even in the event of the entire Syrian Armed Forces being deployed against the PLO positions in Tripoli (northern Lebanon). This was long enough to destroy Syria's hopes for total control of the Palestinians.

According to Al-Franji, in Tunis the PLO and its most important subsidiary organization, Fatah, urged that troops from the Arab League be sent to the scene of the fighting and proposed that UN-supervised elections be held among the Palestinians. These elections were certain to give 'Arafat confirmation.

Al-Franji said that the PLO-Fatah wants to submit the demand for elections among the Palestinian population to the United Nations in New York. "It remains to be seen whether Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and his Libyan friend (revolutionary leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi — DPA) would allow the Palestinians to vote for the PLO." With regard to the proposal that a mixed force of Arab troops be sent to Tripoli, Al-Franji said that it would be possible to verify in this way whether the fighting is merely a "mutiny" against 'Arafat, as Syria claims, or whether it is a Syrian-Palestinian attack.

The PLO representative in Bonn, himself a member of the 78-strong Revolutionary Council of Fatah, linked his strong attacks on Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi with an appeal to stop the fighting immediately. "We want to form a front with Syria and all the Arab countries to regain our rights," he said. Al-Franji stressed in this respect that the PLO's former policy of moderation would in the future "no longer be as visible as before."

Baghdad PLO Pledges Continuing Resistance

JN151746 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1640 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] To the traitors and agents in the Syrian regime: The Palestinian people in the occupied homeland and in the diaspora have decided to confront the plot you are implementing after you agreed to carry out the role of brokers for imperialism and Zionism. The battle you are imposing on our revolution in northern Lebanon will not remain within the limits you have drawn up.

In the name of all the Palestinian martyrs who fell in Sabra, Shatila, Nahr al-Barid, Tulkarm, Al-Yarmuk, Al-Baddawi, and Ad-Duhayshah, we pledge to fight you. We will fight you, cowards, so this revolution can continue to fight its Zionist enemy and its decisionmaking may remain independent. We will fight with our cub and guide-girl fighters, with our men and women. We will fight you, agents, in Damascus and in all the Syrian cities, in the Arab arena, and elsewhere in this world. We will fight you, sons of snakes. We will fight the new Hulago [Mongol ruler]. We will fight all the criminals of war who have slaughtered the Palestinians in the camps of northern Lebanon and the Lebanese in Tripoli. We will fight those who committed massacres in Aleppo, Tudmur, and Hamah.

We will fight you because the Syrian people and the free men of the Syrian Army are with us. Our people's masses feed us with valiant fighters. We will fight you, masters of crime in the Syrian Arab land, because this land insists on preserving its Arabism and supporting Palestine and its revolution. Syria is the land of the free heroes such as Sultan Basha al-Atrash, Yusuf al-'Athmi, and Ibrahim Hananu. Syria will not be a shelter for traitors and killers.

Al-'Asifah on 'Arafat, Husayn, Mubarak Plots

JN160413 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The Al-'Asifah Forces General Command has stressed its determination to confront the suspect schemes which 'Arafat and his clique are carrying out to circumvent the PLO in cooperation with imperialism and reactionary Arab regimes and with the backing of the United States. In a statement issued yesterday, the Al-'Asifah Forces General Command explained that for the past few days 'Arafat has been holding dangerous contacts with

the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes and has announced in successive statements his readiness to visit Jordan and to conclude an agreement with King Husayn on the Palestinian cause, thus paving the way for joining the treasonous Camp David. The statement noted that 'Arafat's envoys had visited Jordan while his forces were opening fire on Palestinian positions and camps in Tripoli.

Al-'Asifah noted that 'Arafat has ignored the indignation of the citizens, the national forces and sectors in Tripoli, and disregarded their demands to leave the city, particularly the demand by former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami. 'Arafat also ignored the GCC summit delegation led by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister. The statement added that Al-'Asifah is holding contacts with the National Salvation Front, with Rashid Karami, and with the Palestinian forces which seek to entrench Palestinian national unity and safeguard the Palestinian revolution and its cause.

Al-'Asifah called on all Palestinian resistance factions and all Arab progressive and national forces to confront the 'Arafat-Husayn-Mubarak meeting and prevent the rescuing of Camp David, as a scheme to liquidate the Palestinian cause from its dilemma. Concluding its statement, the Al-'Asifah Forces warned King Husayn and the emblems of deviation both inside and outside the occupied homeland about the consequences of supporting this scheme. Al-'Asifah said: We will confront all the capitulatory schemes depending on the staunchness of our people and their commitment to their revolution and to the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

Turbul VOPR on 'Arafat's Meeting With Israelis

NC151025 Turbul Lebanon Voice of the Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 0630 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Our relatives and beloved ones in Al-Baddawi, Nahr al-Barid, and Tripoli: Our revolution is giant, continuing, and safe and sound thanks to the firsts of the brave ones who are fighting to liberate Palestine from the Zionist criminals.

O brothers, we have spoken to you about 'Arafat's disgraceful course of action and tyranny, such as his meeting with the Zionists in Austria and Tunisia and with the secretary general of the Israeli communist party, RAKAH, in Prague. What did they discuss and deliberate on, O brothers? The destruction of our homes and liquidation of our cause.

Why all these deviations by you and your men, O Abu 'Ammar? You have disgraced our people in the occupied territory and elswhere. May God disgrace you. Our people in the occupied territory are throwing stones at the Zionists, and you, O Abu 'Ammar, and your men are drinking toasts to these martyrs with these Zionist criminals in the bars of Prague and Austria.

O brothers, 2 days ago, Abu 'Ammar sent an urgent message to Mubarak seeking forces and arms in order to use them to massacre our peopel in Al-Baddawi and Tripoli. Who is Mubarak, O brothers? Mubarak is an agent of the Americans and the Zionists. He has followed the course of agent As-Sadat, who signed with the Zionists the agreement of humiliation and shame — the Camp David agreement. Mubarak opened an Israeli Embassy whose flag flies over Egypt.

O brothers, Abu 'Ammar has sought Mubarak's help. Before this, he sought Husayn's help. It will not be strange if tomorrow he will seek the help of Shamir, Sharon, and Reagan in order to liquidate our people and finish us.

Why, O Abu 'Ammar, are you and your men doing all this? Have your brothers in the revolution and uprising become your enemies and Mubarak and Husayn your friends who are eager to protect the revolution? Protect it from whom? From the revolutionaries and fighters in the revolution and uprising.

Shame on you, O Abu 'Ammar. It is a great crime that you have sought the help of Mubarak and others in order to massacre this poor people. Why? Why? Can we forget Husayn's acts and his massacres in September 1970? King Husayn massacred hundreds of thousands of our people in Amman, Az-Zarqa, and Jarash.

Never mind, O brothers and relatives. Abu 'Ammar has made big mistakes and his course has changed. He has deviated from the revolution and its principles. As we have stated, Abu 'Ammar must confess his mistakes and deviations.

Arab Communists Urge End to Palestinian Fighting

JN151551 Jerusalem AT-TALI'AH in Arabic 10 Nov 83 p 12

[Text] The communist and workers parties in the Arab countries have issued the following urgent appeal:

The communist and workers parties in the Arab countries strongly appeal to the sides fighting in northern Lebanon and call upon them to put an immediate end to the serious fighting which is threatening the lives of thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese. The fighting greatly harms that Palestinian-Syrian-nationalist Lebanese alliance, the PLO's unity, independence, and sole, legitimate representation of the Palestinian Arab people, and the whole Palestine question. It occurs at a time when the U.S.-imperialist-Zionist-reactionary onslaught is being intensified against the Arab national liberation movement in general and Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement in particular.

The represenatives of the communist and workers parties in the Arab countries, which called an urgent meeting following the outbreak of large-scale fighting in the Tripoli area in Lebanon, believe that this serious and destructive development diverts the battle from its natural course against the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary danger and exhausts the resources of our peoples in battles which benefit only the enemies of the Palestinian people, Syria, and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

Our communist and workers parties believe that the weapons must be aimed at the enemies. Therefore, they appeal to all sides to stop the fighting and resort to democratic political dialogue as their only course in not only settling the differences in the Palestinian arena, but also in solving Syrian-Palestinian differ-

ences so as to consolidate their common struggle against the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary enemy.

In these circumstances, which are marked by a serious confrontation with the enemy front, our parties call for channeling and pooling all national and revolutionary resources of our Arab peoples toward intensifying the common struggle against U.S. imperialism and its allies and followers, protecting the PLO and its legitimate institutions from the dangers of divisions and disintegration, deterring the premeditated imperialist-Zionist aggression against Syria, and strengthening the alliance with the Lebanese National Salvation Front in its intensified struggle to foil the Israeli-Phalangist-U.S. agreement of treason and humiliation. The parties call for a common struggle to expel the Israeli invaders and the U.S. and NATO forces from Lebanon and to preserve Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, unity, and democratic development.

Let the fighting between comrades-in-arms stop immediately.

Our communist and workers parties in the Arab countries call on all the progressive nationalist forces in the world, and in the camp of the friends of the Arab peoples, to use all their prestige and influence to achieve this noble and very important objective before it is too late.

The statement was signed by: the Egyptian Communist Party, the Sudanese Communist Party, the Palestinian Communist Party, the Iraqi Communist Party, the Syrian Communist Party, the Tunisian Communist Party, the Saudi Communist Party, and the Lebanese Communist Party.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Studying Investment Protection

GF151417 Doha QNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Nov (QNA) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'* quotes sources which it termed as reliable as saying that consultations are currently taking place among the GCC finance ministers on measures that could be taken by these countries to protect their investments in foreign countries. The paper added there are many options in this respect among which are signing a collective Gulf agreement with countries which the Gulf group has made investments or signing bilateral agreements with this point spelled out in them. The paper added, quoting these sources, saying that studies and consultations currently center on choosing the best means for guaranteeing Gulf investments in light of the agreements signed between some of the Gulf countries on one hand and the Western countries on the other within the framework of OPEC or other groupings.

BAHRAIN

Amir Interviewed on GCC, Gulf Affairs

PM151404 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 7 Nov 83 p 9

[Interview with Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah by Ayman Habib — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: You seem very optimistic about the Gulf experiment. Why?

Answer: Naturally I am optimistic, and we should all be optimistic as we see what the GCC has achieved in the political, military, and economic spheres in a short period of time. This calls for optimism, especially when we look at the experiments of many other states which have achieved far less than we have over a longer period. This is without doubt due to the strong ties among the people of the Gulf, who are really one and the same people.

Question: Your Highness, the fourth GCC summit conference was preceded by the Peninsula Shield exercises. In view of the special importance of the military aspect, could you give us an assessment of that step and its effect on the stability and security of the Gulf region?

Answer: The Peninsula Shield exercises demonstrated to everyone that the people of the Gulf are serious about defending their security and their territory and that the GCC has become a firm reality and a solid power adding to Arab and Islamic strength. The Peninsula Shield exercises reflected the level of military cooperation achieved in the Gulf. This undoubtedly stems from the Gulf leaders' interest in the region's security and stability. The exercises showed the Arab Gulf's capabilities. In the future we hope to see many more cooperation steps in this field.

Question: Some people have interpreted the Peninsula Shield exercises as an implicit answer to the recent threats to block the Strait of Hormuz, while others saw them as some kind of military pressure. What is your verdict?

Answer: As I said before, the Peninsula Shield exercises were a manifestation of military cooperation among the GCC states, not a threat of military power. They merely crowned the efforts of past years. We hope that maximum cooperation will be achieved in this field because the Gulf can only be protected by its own power and people.

Question: Your Highness, how do you view the dangers threatening the region, and what is the ideal way of warding off these dangers?

Answer: I want to explain an extremely important point: The GCC states have a fixed and integrated strategy based on their knowledge of their people's needs and of the necessary requirements for permanent security and stability. Therefore, looking around, one should not get the impression that the Gulf states anticipate any particular threat they would want to ward off. The Gulf states want to have the intrinsic power to deal with any present or future threat. To put it more clearly, what we are doing now is trying to detect the dangers, looking for the best way of facing these dangers, and preparing ourselves for the worst. It is therefore meaningless to link our meetings or coordination steps to the developments in the region because the Gulf states are not interested in just reacting. They have specific principles, clear objectives, and a long-term, comprehensive strategy.

Question: Some people question the point of having a Gulf unified military force if there is no intention of taking any military action. What is your opinion?

Answer: Power does not mean aggression. Establishing a balance of power in any particular area is a guarantee of stability for that area. It neutralizes attitudes, eliminates danger, and opens the way for negotiation and, in some cases, cooperation. Would it be in the interest of the Gulf states to allow an imbalance of power and not to strengthen their military capabilities in order to defend their gains and support their urgent causes?

Question: Are the Gulf states expecting a foreign threat?

Answer: The Gulf states would be wrong not to expect such a threat because that would mean a state of relaxation which could entail grave consequences. Expectation is not what matters. What is important is that we have shouldered our responsibilities.

Question: From time to time questions are raised about the effectiveness of joint Gulf action, especially certain aspects of it. How do you assess the cooperation among the Gulf states in the security and political fields, bearing in mind that much doubt has been cast on that aspect?

Answer: As I said before, cooperation in the security field is proceeding steadily, like everything else. If you are referring to the security agreement, there is a consensus that Gulf cooperation is important in all fields, of which security is one of the most important. We are aware of the motives behind such tendentious attempts to undermine or belittle any achievement. We know that the aim of any efforts toward departmental organization in the Gulf states is to ensure continuity, serve the interests of the people of the region, and promote enough common ground to achieve integration.

Question: The Manama summit approved efforts to end Iraqi-Iranian hostilities, but these efforts have not achieved the desired results. Does this mean we have reached the point of despair?

Answer: We believe that the Gulf's security requires the cessation of all hot developments. We cannot detach ourselves from what is going on around us. When the Manama summit approved such efforts, the aim was to stop the bloodshed between the two fraternal countries. However, we have not reached the point of despair and we will undoubtedly do our best to persuade all sides to resond to our appeal.

Question: Some people believe that the war could spill over and that this is now imminent.

Answer: There is no exaggeration in that, but it also is not perfectly accurate. We should perhaps restate the fact that one of the main objectives of the GCC is to prevent a danger before it occurs. This means building all the necessary power and making all the necessary preparations. That is why every step we take in that direction is an attempt to contain danger or stay clear of the blocs of international and regional conflicts.

Kuwaiti Interior Minister Holds Talks

GF151440 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1240 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Manama, 15 Nov (WAKH) — Official talks between the Bahraini side led by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, interior minister, and the Kuwaiti side led by Shaykh Nawwaf al-Jabir as-Sabah, interior minister, began here this morning. After the session, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah said the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and Gulf issues relating to the security situation in the Gulf region in particular and in the Arab world in general. In a statement to WAKH, the Bahraini interior minister said the two sides also dealt with new developments in the region and focused on enhancing security among the GCC countries to ensure security, stability, and safety for the region's peoples.

The Bahraini interior minister praised what was agreed upon during the talks and the issues which were discussed. He said the two sides were unanimous in their views on all issues discussed.

QATAR

U.S. Energy Secretary Arrives 15 Nov

GF151823 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1745 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Doha, 15 Nov (WAKH) — Donald Hodel, U.S. secretary of energy, arrived in Doha from Washington this evening on a short visit to Qatar as part of a tour he is making which also includes visits to the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Algeria. He will hold talks with senior officials in these countries on bilateral cooperation in the oil field.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives UAE Heir Apparent

LD151423 Riyadh SPA in English 1257 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh, Nov 15, SPA — Hm King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received at his palace here today Sheikh Khalifah ibn Zayid al-Nuhayyan, the UAE heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of armed forces and his accompanying delegation.

Saudi-UAE Official Talks

LD151415 Riyadh SPA in English 1247 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, Nov. 15, SPA — Saudi-UAE official talks started here today under the co-chairmanship of Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan and Sheikh Kahlifah ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan, the UAE heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of Armed Forces. The deliberations were attended by deputy defence and aviation minister Prince 'Abd ar-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Muhammad al-Mulham the minister of state and cabinet member 'Uthman al-Humayd, the assistant defence minister for military affairs, General Muhammad as-Salih al-Hamad, the chief-of general staff as well as commanders of air and marine forces. From the UAE side, the talks were attended by Ahmad Khalifah al-Swaydi, the personal envoy of the UAE president, minister of state for foreign affairs Rashid al-'Abdallah, the minister of state for local affairs Major-General Hammudah ibn 'Ali and senior officials.

Sheikh Khalifah and his accompanying delegation arrived here earlier today on a five-day visit to the kingdom at the invitation of Prince Sultan. On his arrival Sheikh Khalifah told SPA the visit would be a new step in promoting existing Saudi-UAE ties and enhancing mutual understanding for the benefit of Arab and Islamic causes of mutual concern. He described Saudi-UAE relations as a model that should be followed by Arab brother countries due to the concern given by King Fahd and UAE President Sheikh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nahayyan.

He said the GCC is a "successful Arab body" facilitating inter-Arab unity and solidarity int he face of dangers threatening the Arab nation.

Prince Sultan said the talks came in the wake of the fourth GCC summit of Doha, to follow up efforts to realise the aspirations of the Gulf region for prosperity, security and progress.

The strong Saudi-UAE ties are product of King Fahd and Sheikh Zayid determiniation to continue consultations and coordination among the two countries in all fields.

He described the renaissance and progress currently enjoyed the GCC member states as a "pride for every one."

Crown Prince Receives Iraqi Ambassador
LD151247 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and commander of the National Guard, received the Iraqi ambassador to the Kingdom, 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, in his office at the Royal Court this morning.

UAE

AL-BAYAN Criticizes Rumsfeld's Mideast Mission
GF150800 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0550 GMT 15 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Dubayy, 15 Nov (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-BAYAN* has warned against the genuine grave dimensions of the mission of new U.S. Middle East envoy, Donald Rumsfeld, who began his tour of the region yesterday by visiting Lebanon. Commenting editorially, the paper said that as the previous U.S. envoys announced that they were adopting balanced positions, "the new envoy is qualified with having more stringent nature which is based on revealing flagrant positions that are characterized by extreme commitment to the Israeli position." The paper added that this position represents the core of the general U.S. stance. Rumsfeld's mission comes within the framework of sharply worded and executed U.S. escalation that is associated with flagrant U.S. aggressive positions.

The paper pointed out that the framework of the U.S. escalating position is represented in many basic phenomena which are: determination to take revenge on those who perpetrated the destruction of the Marine headquarters in Beirut and the grave escalation in the violent U.S. language against Syria, which gives the impression that there is an intention to launch military action against it soon in addition to applying the final touches to the new U.S.-Israeli strategic accord. Concluding, *AL-BAYAN* said: Therefore, the mission of Rumsfeld, within this framework, has a special implication which is violently escalating the U.S. position. The mission certainly reflects this attitude.

Oil Minister Meets Iranian Official
GF142016 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1930 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Nov (WAKH) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, has received a message from Mohammed Gharazi, his Iranian counterpart, dealing with the issues which will be discussed in the upcoming OPEC ministerial conference which will be held in Geneva on 17 December. The message was conveyed by 'Abbas Honardust, assistant at the Iranian Energy Ministry, during his meeting with Dr al-'Utaybah this evening. they discussed a number of issues related to the oil market.

Honardust's visit to the UAE is part of his current tour of a number of OPEC countries.

Official Departs for Indonesia
GF150838 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0540 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Nov (WAM) — 'Abbas Honardust, assistant at the Iranian Oil Ministry, left the UAE today for Indonesia after concluding a 1-day visit during which he conveyed a message to Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural respurces, from Mohammad Gharazi, Iranian petroleum minister.

The Iranian official had conveyed similar messages to a number of oil ministers during his current visit to a number of OPEC countries dealing with the issues on the agenda of the next OPEC ministerial meeting which will be held in Geneva on 7 December.

PDRY

Chairman on Expatriates, Gulf War
GF142030 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1645 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Interview with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, by unidentified *AS-SAFIR* correspondent; interview also appears in 14 *OCTOBER*]

[Excerpts] Correspondent: Statistics indicate that there are more than (?100,000) PDRY citizens working in Saudi Arabia. Does this reflect the improvement in your relations with Saudi Arabia?

Muhammad: The government provides various services to its expatriates abroad. The fact that this number of citizens are in Saudi Arabia has nothing to do with relations between the two countries. Relations are normal and, for our part, we are trying to continue them on the basis of neighborliness, mutual respect, fruitful cooperation, and noninterference in internal affairs.

Correspondent: What is the nature of your relations with Iran on the political and economic levels? Has there been an increase in trade between Iran and the PDRY?

Muhammad: Our political and economic relations with Iran are normal. Realistic steps have been taken to implement that which has been agreed upon, including trade exchange between the two countries.

Correspondent: Iran recently threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz if Iraq used the French Super Etendard aircraft against its oil installations. What is your comment and what will your stand be if Iran does so?

Muhammad: It is not in the interest of the two parties or anyone else to close the Strait of Hormuz. It is an important strait for the world's economy. That is why Iraq's hitting Iran's oil installations or Iran's closing the strait would mean harming the economic life and vital interests of both parties on the one hand and world's economy on the other.

Indeed, it would threaten world peace and provide a pretext for U.S. imperialism to interfere in the region's affairs to undermine the sovereignty of its countries.

Correspondent: How far have studies on oil exploration in the PDRY gone?

Muhammad: Exploration for oil is continuing. We are very optimistic because there have been encouraging results. In view of these results, the government is paying special attention to continued exploration and preparations to drill for oil.

Yemeni-Soviet cooperation in this field plays an important role since our Soviet friends are helping us explore for oil and train national cadres in this field.

Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister Leaves

GF151405 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Brother Hoseyn Sheykholeslam, Iranian assistant foreign minister, left Aden this morning after a visit of several days to our country during which he delivered a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Talks With Soviet Geological Delegation Begin

GF151856 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Meetings of the sixth session of the PDRY-Soviet geological committee began at the mineral and oil organ today. The committee discussed the implementation of projects and agreements concluded between the two sides in the field of oil and mineral exploration. It also discussed the working program for oil and minerals exploration for 1984. The PDRY side was led by Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir Salih, deputy minister of industry for energy and minerals affairs, and the Soviet side by Comrade (Tokshin), a director at the USSR Ministry of Geology. The Soviet geological committee delegation arrived in Aden from Moscow today.

YAR

Premier Receives Congratulations From USSR

GF151828 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, received a congratulatory cable from the USSR Council of Ministers on the occasion of his appointment as prime minister. The brother prime minister and member of the Standing Committee sent a thank you cable in reply to this congratulatory message.

Briefs

Television Projects — San'a', SABA' NEWS AGENCY — Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the Standing Committee, visited the Riadi' area in Al-Bayda' Province yesterday. He later went to (Jabal Rayyan) to lay the cornerstone on the final phase of the second stage of the television transmission project which, when completed, will allow the entire republic to receive television. The final phase includes four new television stations in (Jabal Rayyan) and (Jabal Haylan) in Al-Juf Province and in (Wahid 'Azimah) and (Jabal Fardhahnahim) in Al-Bayda' Province. This phase will also provide television transmission to Ma'rib Province and the (Razih) area. The (Razih) area project alone will cost 29 mission French francs. [Excerpts] [San'a' ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 21 Oct 83 pp 1, 2 GF]

U.S. Envoy Donald Rumsfeld Arrives 15 November
NC160634 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2330 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The special U.S. Middle East envoy, Donald Rumsfeld, arrived in Cairo tonight for talks with the Egyptian side on the situation in Lebanon and on the current PLO dissidence.

ROSE AL-YUSUF Rejects U.S. 'Pressure' Over Bases
PM151535 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 14 Nov 82 pp 22-23

[Ahmad Hamrush article: "No To U.S. Pressure"]

[Excerpts] When I read the statements made by former U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton at the press conference he held before leaving Cairo I became sure that the issue of U.S. bases and military facilities has not been settled yet and that the U.S. Administration is still looking for a new formula for its military presence in other countries.

In his statements, as published by *AL-JUMHURIYAH* on 4 November, Atherton said that "contacts are currently under way between the two countries to reach agreement on a formula for the use of Ra's Banas that would not undermine Egypt's sovereignty and at the same time would fulfill the U.S. interest in facilities and in use of the Egyptian base."

Atherton's statements come as a shock to those who had read the statements of Egyptian officials emphasizing that there will never be a U.S. presence in Ra's Banas and that there are no foreign bases in Egypt.

What is the meaning of the former U.S. ambassador's statements? These statements clearly mean that the U.S. Administration and RDF are still determined to use Egyptian territory when necessary and that Ra's Banas has been chosen to be a base for the U.S. Navy and Air Force when necessary.

We are fully confident that Husni Mabarak's patriotism, reflected in his numerous statements and clear stands in support of the Palestinian revolution and against getting involved in foreign localized wars fabricated by imperialist and colonialist forces in adherence to the policy of nonalignment, is the main guarantee for all Egyptian patriots. The U.S. ambassador's statements, however, seem to indicate that the U.S. Administration is still trying to turn Egypt into a springboard for U.S. operations similar to the Qina operation, when U.S. aircraft took off from that Egyptian town in an attempt to free the U.S. hostages in Iran. How can we even conceive of cooperation between our own National Armed Forces and the U.S. Forces, whose image has been blemished by the U.S. Administration? How can there be ever talk of military cooperation of any kind when the 6th Fleet's guns are pounding the Lebanese people — something unprecedented since the 1956 aggression? How can Egypt, itself the target of aggression in the past, join hands with the U.S. Administration as it invades Grenada in violation of UN resolutions and regardless of the protests of NATO member states? How can any nationalist calculations produce such conclusions?

Frankly, pressure is probably being exerted on Egypt. Everyone senses this.

Does U.S. Ambassador Atherton's statement not indicate tireless pressure to ensure some form of U.S. military presence in Ra's Banas? Otherwise how are we to interpret his assertion txhat they are still looking for a formula that would not undermine Egypt's sovereignty and at the same time would meet the U.S. wish to have facilities and use of the Egyptian base?

Any U.S. military presence in Egypt now on any pretext and under the Reagan administration would not be an encroachment on Egypt's sovereignty but would also be harmful to its future and security. There can be no suitable formula for such a presence.

We even reject in principle the idea of a dialogue or discussions on such matters of destiny because we do not want to polarize the tension and the dangers posed by the U.S. Administration in Europe through the deployment of nuclear warheads, in Central America through invasion, and in this region with the help of Israeli aggression and through the fleet's shelling of the Lebanese people. We do not want to bring the tension and danger to Egypt.

The U.S. Administration may, as usual, exert pressure, as it is doing now, and to protect Egypt's independence, security, freedom, and sovereignty.

There is no Egyptian patriot who would agree to Ra's Banas, or any other area, becoming a foothold for any U.S. soldier. Former U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton should retract his statements in order not to hurt the Egyptian people's feelings.

The U.S. ambassador — I apologize for dwelling so long on his statements — also said that "over the past 10 years there has been greater understanding and deeper cooperation between the two countries. The results of the implementation of the various programs are now quite clear to the public."

First of all we want to say that we greatly welcome mutual cooperation between Egypt and all states in the common interest of the Egyptian people and the peoples of these states, including the United States. We say this without hesitation, but, within the context of this common interest, we ask: How much does Egypt now owe the United States? How much annual interest is paid on the U.S. loans, and how much money are the U.S. investors making out of it? Is Egypt completely free to use the loans in accordance with the requirements of its development plans?

Where are the signs of successful cooperation the ambassador spoke about in his statements to *AL-AHRAM*?

Telephone networks: Despite all the efforts made and despite the voluntary work of the Armed Forces Engineering Corps, the telephones are still a cause for complaint. It seems that 10 years are not enough.

Rural development: What villages have been developed with U.S. funds, and where? I have heard nothing about that. On the other hand, everyone knows that the High Dam electricity has brought light to most rural areas.

Construction of schools and classrooms: Again I ask where and how many schools and classrooms have been built, and what is their ratio to the already existing ones?

The Alexandria port projects: Have these projects been completed, and at what cost? What debts have they left us with, and have they solved the congestion problem?

We are not trying here to question the principle of cooperation with the United States, which is advanced in the industrial and technological fields. We are merely pointing out that the returns from 10 years of cooperation are not as much as the Egyptian people had expected. The loans are given at high interest rates. As a result our debts have accumulated and now stand at $25 billion, not all owed to the United States, of course.

Finally, disagreement over economic matters is understandable but insistence on the presence of armed foreigners in Egypt under any pretext or "formula" preserving Egypt's sovereignty is not understandable.

GDR Trade Delegation Arrives in Cairo 15 Nov
NC151511 Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 15 (MENA) — A trade delegation of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) arrived here today under Foreign Trade Under Secretary Peter Fritsche on a four-day visit to Egypt.

The delegation will have talks with officials at the Trade and Economy Ministries on means of bolstering bilateral trade and economic relations and the increase of Egypt's exports to the GDR.

Briefs:

Chinese Cultural Delegation — Cairo, Nov 15 (MENA) — A Chinese cultural delegation under the antiquities authority adviser arrived here this afternoon for a 3-week visit at the invitation of the Egyptian Culture Ministry. The delegation will tour the various archaeological sites and will also meet with head of the Egyptian Antiquities Authority Ahmad Quadri and other officials. [Text][Cairo MENA in English 1515 GMT 15 Nov 83 NC]

Armed Forces Issue Communique No 1,280

JN151705 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Nov (INA) — Iraqi helicopter gunships today raided the Iranian forces' positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, inflicting large losses in personnel and equipment before returning safely to base.

Communique No 1,280 issued here this evening by the Armed Forces General Command adds that the Iraqi forces killed six Iranians and destroyed four machineguns and five infantry positions.

It indicates that new groups of Iranian military men and civilians sought refuge with the forward Iraqi units in the northern sector of the battlefield to escape Khomeyni's oppression. They were safely evacuated to the rear. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,280 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our capable Armed Forces are continuing their valiant activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the suspect, spiteful Iranian regime. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units opened artillery fire on the enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, inflicting losses in both men and equipment. New groups of Iranian military men and civilians, fleeing the oppression of the clique of rancor and charlatanism in Iran, sought refuge with our forward units elsewhere in the same sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

2. Our helicopter gunships today carried out several effective combat missions against the enemy positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, inflicting losses in personnel and equipment. All our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our forward units opened fire on an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing four and destroying two machineguns and one infantry position with its occupants.

4. Our forward units opened fire on a number of enemy troops and positions opposite our positions in the area east of Basra, killing two and destroying four infantry positions and two machineguns.

5. Today the wicked Khomeyniite clique shelled Mandali and its suburbs with artillery, damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 November 1983 .

Women's Leader Meets Hungarian Peace Council Head

JN151450 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Nov (INA) — Manal Yunis 'Abda ar-Razzaq, president of the General Federation of Iraqi Women, has met with Nandorne Sebestyen, president of the Hungarian National Peace Council, and her delegation.

Manal Yunis reviewed the Iraqi woman's role and contributions to maintaining the spirit of the victory the Iraqi forces scored over the Iranian regime's aggression. She also discussed the Iraqi woman's role in increasing production and rationing consumption with a view to bolstering Iraqi steadfastness against aggression.

Mrs Sebestyen stressed the Hungarian National Peace Council's support for the peaceful efforts to end the war and indicated that the council is exerting efforts in this regard.

The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and ways to stimulate them within women's organizations in a manner that will bolster the peoples' struggle for freedom and peace.

AD-DUSTUR: Walid Junblatt Arrives in Amman 15 Nov
JN160735 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Amman —Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, arrived in Amman yesterday on a visit to Jordan that will last several days.

AR-RA'Y: Yugoslav Official To Arrive in Amman 18 Nov
JN160734 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Amman —Lazar Mojsov, Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs, will arrive in Amman on Friday on a 2-day visit to Jordan.

Mojsov will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on promoting relations between Jordan and Yugoslavia, the Middle East issue, and international issues of mutual interest.

Jordanians Seen Skeptical on 'Arafat's Future
PM151239 Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Nov 83 p 3

[Emmanuel Jarry dispatch: "The PLO Leader's Mistake Was in Failing To Take Risks at the Right Time"]

[Excerpt] Amman — "Yasir 'Arafat talks too much!" — that was the reaction given on Sunday, 13 November, by a businessman close to official Jordanian circles following the statement in which the PLO leader, besieged in Tripoli, said that he was having preliminary talks with Amman with a view to a Jordanian-Palestinian compromise. Indeed, that statement seems to have fallen flat in the Jordanian capital, and no official stance had been taken on it on Sunday evening.

At present government circles are making do with evasive comments: "Yasir 'Arafat's mistake was in failing to take risks at the right time. The proposals which Jordan put to him last April were good proposals," Walid Tash, secretary general of the Jordanian Foreign Ministry, told us. "If Yasir 'Arafat now accepted the agreement which he reached with King Husayn last April, I do not know whether it would have the same impact. At that time the world was waiting. Today it seems a little late."

King Husayn nonetheless told the Kuwaiti newspaper *AS-SIYASAH* on 3 November that "the door is still open" for Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. The Jordanian king has also had several meetings over the past few weeks with top Palestinian officials, including Hani al-Hasan, one of Mr 'Arafat's closest aides.

The Jordanian leaders are clearly thinking of what will happen after Tripoli. According to Western diplomatic sources, king Husayn has hinted to foreign visitors that "a PLO under Syrian control would no longer be representative" and that it would thus be necessary "to think of a different formula." Mr Tash said the same when he stated: "Our reference point is the Rabat summit resolution (which recognizes the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative — *LE MONDE* editor's note). If the PLO were to come under the control of an Arab country, we would not have the same attitude."

In addition, the Jordanian leaders think that if Mr Yasir 'Arafat wishes to cooperate with Amman, it will have to be on the basis of the principles agreed with King Husayn last April (principles which Mr 'Arafat failed to have ratified by the PLO leadership) and on no other basis. "There can be no question of starting discussions from scratch again," Jordanian Government circles stress. But will Yasir 'Arafat be able or prepared to take the step if he does escape from the Tripoli trap?

In general the Jordanians seem divided on this subject. Some think that he will adopt a more radical line in order not to place himself in a worse position with regard to Syria and his opponents within Fatah and the PLO. Others, however, think that Yasir 'Arafat will have no choice but to cooperate with Jordan and Egypt. However, few people are really convinced that the palestinian leader still has a future.

Khaddam Arrives for Talks With Al-Jumayyil 16 Nov
NC160919 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0912 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text]Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Beirut a short while ago. He was met at the Duwwar area in Bikfayya by Foreign Minister Elie Salim, who accompanied him to the B'abda Palace.

Meeting With Al-Jumayyil
NC161257 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text]Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived at the Presidential Palace in B'abda at 1000 this morning. He was accompanied by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. He immediately met privately with President al-Jumayyil. Minister Khaddam is accompanied by the director of his office, Dr Mustafa al-Haj 'Ali. At the palace's entrance, Khaddam was met by Hikmat 'Awwad, acting chief of protocol and public relations. The talks lasted until 1315 this afternoon. Minister Khaddam is now having lunch with the president in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim.

Monte Carlo on Meeting
JN161250 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by George Bashir, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Beirut — live]

[Text] President Al-Jumayyil's meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam is still under way at the home of the Lebanese president in Sinn al-Fil, which was subjected to indiscriminate artillery shelling this morning. It seems that the date of Minister Khaddam's visit to Lebanon was advanced by 1 day for security reasons. This was confirmed by Khaddam's care in proceeding within the areas under the Syrian forces' control as he left Al-Masna', passed through Al-Biqa', Duhur Zahlah, and the upper Al-Matn from where he left for Bikfayyah and from there to the B'abda Palace where telephone communications had been suspended also for security reasons. This is the first official visit by a Syrian official to Lebanon since before the assassination of late Lebanese President Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil.

A few moments ago, that is, 2 hours after Minister Khaddam's arrival at B'abda Palace and meeting with President al-Jumayyil, all were surprised to see the Lebanese president driving his mercedes with Minister Khaddam at his side through the streets of Sinn al-Fil and Furn Ash-Shubbak until they reached the house of President al-Jumayyil in Sinn al-Fil. The two are currently meeting over lunch. The meeting is expected to produce important results concerning Syrian-Lebanese relations in light of the meeting of the National Dialogue Committee in Geneva and the forthcoming summit meeting between Presidents al-Asad and al-Jumayyil in Damascus, and concerning the fate of the 17 May agreement which organizes the process for the withdrawal of all the foreign forces from Lebanon, especially the withdrawal of the Israeli forces.

After the first meeting in the B abda Palace, Minister Khaddam said that the talks with the Lebanese president were held in a cordial and brotherly atmosphere. Khaddam added: We exchanged viewpoints on the various existing situations in Lebanon and the Arab region, particularly the future steps of the Geneva conference. We discussed all the problems and we hope that the second round of the National Dialogue Conference will be held for ending the current crisis in the fraternal country.

Khaddam News Conference
NC161306 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1138 GMT 16 Nov 83

[News conference given by Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Beirut on 16 November — recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Minister, can you describe your talks with President al-Jumayyil today?

[Khaddam] The talks were held in a fraternal atmosphere during which we exchanged views on various current situations in Lebanon and in the Arab area, particularly the second round of the Geneva conference. We discussed all matters. We hope that the second round of the National Dialogue Conference may reach an end to the current crisis in this fraternal country.

[Correspondent] Mr Minister, in fact the second round of the Geneva conference depends on a tour which President al-Jumayyil proposes to made to some Arab and foreign capitals, foremost of which Damascus. Have you set another date for President al-Jumayyil's visit to Syria after President al-Asad's recovery?

[Khaddam] Yes, we agreed that his excellency the president will visit Damascus soon after the president recovers after leaving the hospital.

[Correspondent] Mr Minister, there is also another subject being raised now, namely, the cease-fire to which Syria considerably contributed. You in person declared the cease-fire. We see that the cease-fire is being violated daily and that inevitably there is a need for a daily cease-fire. What can Syria do in practice to put an end to the cease-fire violations.?

[Khaddam] This subject was part of our discussions. We agreed on some practical measures. There will be a high-level meeting among responsible military men of the parties concerned. This matter had been agreed upon in Geneva to draw up practical arrangements that will end the possibility of cease-fire violations. We hope that this will take place soon.

[Correspondent] Will such action for a cease-fire hold?

[Khaddam] It must hold.

[Correspondent] Mr Minister, what is Syria's stance toward today's Israeli attack on an area in Al-Biqa', particularly in view

of statements yesterday from Damascus that it will respond in the event of an Israeli intervention?

[Khaddam] Israel is the aggressor. Naturally, the enemy [word indistinct] attacks. Naturally, this attack exposes to us the seriousness of the continuation of the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. It also dictates to us to exert further effort and action to end this occupation.

[Correspondent] Mr Minister, press reports indicate that today's meeting with his excellency the president will deal with defining the agenda of President al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus. Have any guidelines been discussed?

[Khaddam] The talks between President al-Asad and His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil will cover everything. The talks will include everything of interest to Lebanon, Syria, and to the area.

[Correspondent] What will be the status of the 17 May accord?

[Khaddam] You are aware of our stance regarding this accord. We believe that this accord must be nullified because it constitutes a major obstacle in the way of restoring security, stability, and Lebanon's sovereignty and integrity as it imposes restrictions on Lebanon but allows gains for Israel. We hope that the current efforts will be able to deliver Lebanon from this dilemma.

[Correspondent] Will you meet with other officials?

[Khaddam] I will have lunch with the president. I do not know what is next on the program. Thank you.

[Correspondent] In the event you [words indistinct] 17 May accord, are your prepared to confront the Israeli forces or to draw up a unified Arab strategy for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon?

[Khaddam] We are prepared to discuss and agree with the Lebanese Government and Arab governments regarding whatever services Lebanon, its independence, its integrity, and sovereignty over every inch of its territory, including the confrontation of the Israeli enemy.

[Correspondent] Mr Minister, in your talks with the president did you discuss the situation in the north?

[Khaddam] Naturally, we discussed all matters. Thank you.

Departure for Damascus

NC161426 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left for Damascus this afternoon. President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil accompanied his guest aboard a Lebanese Army helicopter from his residence in Sinn al-Fil to a place from which Minister Khaddam then continued his trip to Syria. They were accompanied aboard the helicopter by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Jean 'Ubayd, and Mustafa al-Haj Ali, director of Minister Khaddam's office.

Al-Wazzan Cables Good Wishes to Syrian President

NC151815 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today cabled Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to congratulate him on the success of the surgery he underwent and to wish him an early recovery.

Syrians Reportedly Install Missile Network

NC151711 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1702 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] A highly-placed diplomatic source has told the CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY that the Syrian forces have completed the deployment of an advanced Soviet missile network on the Sannin hills, on Az-Za'rur, and on other hills near Az-Za'rur. The Syrian forces, according to the source, installed a warning device linking the network with the Syrian headquarters in Shtawrah and Damascus. The missiles can hit a naval target off the Lebanese coast.

Israeli Air Attacks in Al-Biqa' Reported

NC160758 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0745 GMT 16 Nov 893

[Text] The cease-fire agreed upon at 0915 this morning does not appear to be holding. Shells are landing in the capital while violent clashes are taking place along the 'Aytat axes in the mountain. We are awaiting security sources for details.

We have just been informed that aircraft are attacking An-Nabi Shit in Al-Biqa'. The attack began at 0920. The Israeli forces cut the Sidon-Tyre road in the south from Shabriha. The reasons are still unknown.

Sha'rah, Janta Under Attack

NC160759 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0750 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Further to our report about the air attack on An-Nabi Shit area , the security forces sources indicated that Sha'rah and Janta camps came under this attack in Al-Biqa'. In Tyre, an Israeli post in Qana junction came under light machinegun fire at 0800 this morning. The Israeli forces cordoned off the area and carried out combing operations.

Al-Musawi Camps Bombed

NC160832 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] In reports we broadcast at approximately 0940 and which we followed with another report approximately 10 minutes later we reported that four Israeli fighters, since 0920, have been

bombing two training camps belonging to the Iranian revolutionary guards and the Husayn al-Musawi group in Sha'rah and Janta located in the An-Nabi Shit area southeast of Ba'labakk at the foot of the eastern mountain range. The Israeli aircraft concentrated its bombardment on the Iranian radio station [idha'ah iraniyah] in the Al-Baz quarter of At-Tayyibah and the Al-Musawi headquarters. Both centers took direct hits. In the meantime, formations of Israeli aircraft overflew the south at low altitude. Since 0930 four military formations have been overflying Al-Hirmil, 'Aynata, Al-Arz, Tripoli, Al-Laqluq, Tannurin, and Al-Batrun ridges.

Ammunition Depots Destroyed

NC160927 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0917 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Excerpt] A Voice of Lebanon correspondent says that the Israeli air raids against two training camps belonging to the Husayn al-Musawi group in An-Nabi Shit area have destroyed two ammunition depots. Sounds of explosions were heard and flames and smoke were seen. Fire engines and ambulances are leaving from Ba'labakk area for the bombed areas. It was reported that a number of people were killed or injured in the area.

Army in Suq al-Gharb, Khaldah Under Fire

NC151347 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1322 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch from the editorial room of the NNA — live]

[Text] A security source has stated that the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb have been subjected to artillery shelling as well as anti-armor and machinegun fire since 1410 this afternoon. Gunmen are firing mortar and RPG shells at the Army positions in Khaldah Heights. The Army is retaliating to silence the sources of fire. On the other hand, the Army will detonate unexploded shells on the Al-Awza'i shore in a few minutes. This is being brought to the citizens' attention.

Shelling Intensifies

NC151610 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1541 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch from the editorial room of the NNA — live]

[Text] A security source told us a short time ago that the Army positions in the areas of Suq al-Gharb, Khaldah, and their suburbs are being subjected to a concentrated artillery shelling. The Army is returning the fire. In the meantime, shells continue to fall in the area of greater Beirut, precisely the areas of Al-Ashrafiyah and its suburbs. The sound of intermittent explosions is being heard. The security quarters are attempting to pinpoint their location. Therefore, the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Khaldah and their suburbs are being subjected to a concentrated shelling. The Army is returning the fire. Finally, the citizens are requested to be cautious and not to roam the streets, particularly the streets in the areas being shelled.

New Beirut Areas Under Fire

NC151615 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1550 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch from the editorial room of the NNA — live]

[Text] Security sources have informed us that shells have fallen in the Wadi Abu Jamil quarter and the Burj al-Murr periphery. The sources add that a building in Wadi Abu Jamil was hit. The civil defense teams are working to rescue its occupants. These are preliminary reports which have not yet been officially confirmed. A security report says that as a result of shelling of the Hotel Dieu perimeter, a shell fell on the Lycee school and another one close to the Alexander Hotel. Losses known so far are material. We remind you that the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Khaldah are coming under mortar fire. The Army is returning the fire.

Explosion Near French Contingent

NC151909 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] An explosive charge, which was placed in a bag in Hayy Farhat in Sabra Street near the French contingent, went off at 2006 tonight. There were no human losses.

Overflights Continue

NC160806 Beirut Domestic Service in Arab 0759 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] A security source indicated that as of 0930 this morning several aircrafts are flying over the north at 28,000 feet. This includes Al-Laqluq, Al-Hirmil, the Cedars, and Tripoli. Several aircraft are overflying the south and northern Israel. Unidentified planes flew over west Beirut where four formations of planes were seen in flight.

U.S. Aircraft Overfly Beirut

NC160842 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0820 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Clashes are continuing on the 'Alayh, 'Aytat, Suq al-Gharb, and Dahr al-Wahsh fronts. Two Lebanese soldiers were injured on the 'Aytat axis. In the meantime, U.S. warplanes overflew Beirut and the mountain several times.

Cease-Fire Agreement Reached

NC161039 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The Lebanese Army positions in the (Qurs al-Mudawwar) and Qabr Shmun areas are being subjected to artillery shelling originating in 'Alayh, Baysur, and Shamlan. The Suq al-Gharb and Dahr al-Wahsh area are also being subjected to sporadic shelling and heavy firing by DSHK, 50-caliber machineguns, and anti-aircraft arms. The Army is returning the fire. Since 1100 a number of shells have fallen in Bsus township from 'Alayh. The

shells have also reached (Human). A cease-fire agreement was announced as of 1300 today. The security committee will hold a meeting at 1300 to supervise the cease-fire.

Political Committee Reviews Security Situation
NC151251 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1203 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The higher liaison body's political committee held its periodical meeting at noon today at the presidential palace under the chairmanship of Staff Major General Habib Faris, the general coordinator, in the presence of the Italian ambassador, the U.S., French, and British charge d'affaires, the Multinational Force commanders, and the Lebanese officers team. At the outset of the meeting the chief of the military operations room at the presidential palace outlined the security situation, focusing on the indiscriminate shelling of residential areas, and the deteriorating situation in Tripoli and its environs, as well as on the situation in the south and the difficulties encountered by the citizens in crossing the Al-Awwali River. Staff Maj Gen Faris briefed the conferees on the work of the followup committee in Geneva and the preparatory atmosphere of the tour which his excellency the Lebanese president will make to some Arab and foreign capitals. Staff Maj Gen Faris also noted the preparatory work being done for the second meeting of the Dialogue Conference in Geneva.

Amal Warns Against Change in Geneva Stance
NC160713 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The Amal Movement has declared that withdrawal of the parties to the National Dialogue Committee from the unanimous stance in Geneva is a matter threatening the various phases of the dialogue. In a statement by its Political Bureau after its meeting under the chairmansip of Colonel 'Akif Haydar, the Amal Movement said: Strangely we are still hearing the voice familiar since 1943, namely, that of the minorities and their fears, which make it necessary to give everything to the minority which claims fear. The movement supports the reopening of schools in Beirut's southern suburb and blesses the efforts and stances of His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, noting that many measures have been adopted to contribute toward restoring normal live in the suburb.

Army Exercises Planned; IDF Patrol Attacked
NC160946 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0934 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] A security source indicated a short while ago that the Lebanese Army will carry out machinegun firing exercises in Ar-Raml al-'Ali 1130-1200. A security source also indicated that at 0940 this morning armed men opened fire on an Israeli patrol between Jall al-Bahr area in Tyre and Shabriha junction. The Israeli forces cut the highway between Sidon and Tyre and combed the area. At 1030 the Israeli forces reopened the highway. The Majdaluna-Al-Jlayliyah road in Al-Kharrub region is unsafe because of sniper fire.

Resistance Kills 3 IDF Soldiers in Tyre
NC151443 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The Zionist military governor in Sidon today said that the crossing points on the Al-Awwali bridge will be closed in both directions for cars and pedestrians, effective tomorrow, Wednesday. He added that any citizen wishing to cross the bridge in any direction must obtain a permit from the occupation authorities. The Lebanese National Resistance men quickly responded to the decision of the Zionist military governor. They attacked a fixed position of the occupation forces in Al-Burghuliyah in Tyre district with hand grenades and machineguns. Eyewitnesses said that more than three soldiers were killed inside the position and that several others were wounded. Ambulances were seen evacuating them from the scene of operation. Consequently, the occupation forces cut the roads and cordoned off the area. They staged a wide-scale campaign of arrests among the citizens in Al-Burghuliyah and the nearby villages.

IDF Patrol Ambushed
NC160938 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Resistance operations against athe Israeli forces are reported in the south. At 0830 this morning an Israeli patrol was ambushed in Ra's al-'Ayn south of Tyre with RPG fire. The losses are unknown. The Israeli forces immediately sealed off and combed the area.

Israeli Post Attacked
NC161040 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] At 0800 this morning the Lebanese National Resistance carried out a new operation against a fixed post of the occupation forces in Qana in Tyre district. Reports from the south indicate that several enemy soldiers were killed or wounded as a result of the attack in which hand grenades and machineguns were used.

Al-Asad Interviewed by U.S. Columnist Evans

JN152140 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1840 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Interview with President Hafiz al-Asad by U.S. commentator Rowland Evans on Wednesday, 9 November 1983, in Damascus — read by announcer]

[Text][Evans] What is your opinion on the possibility of a military conflict involving Israel or the United States on the one hand, and Syria on the other; is this poesible, and could it set off a U.S.-Soviet war?

[Al-Asad] As long as the Israeli invasion of Lebanon continues, it is very difficult to completely rule out the possibilities of danger. This is because the Lebanese will continue their struggle against the occupation, just as any other people whose land has been occupied. The Lebanese people's resistance to occupation will always get the support and sympathy of the peoples of the world. Naturally, Syria will be in the forefront of these peoples, because the peoples of the world are against the invasion of other countries and the occupation of other people's territories. As for a war between the United States and the USSR, of course, we do not wish this war, and I do not think any people wish it. If it takes place, however, the responsibility would fall on the United States, because, it is the United States which has come to Lebanon and which exists in Lebanon. On the other hand, the USSR has not come to Lebanon and does not exist in Lebanon despite its geographical proximity to the USSR.

[Evans] Allow me to put the question another way. If a new conflict breaks out, would it not be possible for the USSR and the United States to get involved in this conflict?

[Al-Asad] Of course this possibility cannot be ruled out. On the contrary, every person who follows such important and major developments must take this into consideration. I did not say that I rule out this possibility, but I said that we do not wish it.

[Evans] Allow me, Mr President, to follow up on the subject and ask questions which I know are difficult. Is it correct to say that if Israel directs an air strike at any Syrian position in Al-Biqa', you will feel committed to use every possible means to prevent the success of this strike; by this I mean the antiaircraft missiles?

[Al-Asad] Of course, every country that is subjected to aggression will reply to the aggression with all the means in its power. What is the use of weapons if we cannot use them to repulse the Israeli aggression. Weapons are not beauftiful so that we can enjoy their beauty. We bought the weapons to use them in self-defense.

[Evans] Regarding U.S.-Syrian relations, has what has taken place during the past 6 months been so bad that it could not be dealt with?

[Al-Asad] We are not against the U.S. people. During my talk with Mr MacFarlane, I told him: When you upheld the principles, you attracted peoples. You cannot do that when you raise guns. You lose principles and peoples when you raise the slogan of the gun. I repeat we are not against the U.S. people. We are against a policy which harms our interests. This policy does not only ignore our interests, but also greatly harms them. We had passed through a period when the relations between Syria and the United States were good.

[Evans] When was that?

[Al-Asad] After 1974. This does not mean that we did not differ then. Everyone had his own stand, but U.S. policy then took our interests into consideration. Through the discussions and meetings which took place between us, whether when President Nixon came to Syria or when I met with President Carter in Geneva, everyone of us heard the other's opinions with interest. We felt then U.S. concern in not harming our interests. We also felt the use of logic to a certain extent in discussing the affairs of the region. Now, however, there is no logic. There are 30 naval vessels. U.S. logic now is the logic of warships and warplanes, and this, of course, is not the logic of reason.

[Evans] Do you see any link between the U.S. operation in Grenada and what you fear, or not fear, the United States may do in Lebanon?

[Al-Asad] I do not want to explain here how we understand the Grenada operation. But I fear that they may miscalculate and think that their invasion of Grenada was a training exercise for what might take place in this region. Regardless of their arrogance, some people must consider some of the differences between the two situations. But they may not see all the differences. If we can say that there were fatal mistakes, then the failure to assess this matter could be fatal. [as heard]

[Evans] There are people in the Untied States who say that Syria is greatly influenced by the USSR. I know the answer to this. But I would like to hear it from you, in person.

[Al-Asad] It seems that such things are said to justify certain mistakes. We are a nonaligned country which seeks to build ties of friendship and cooperation with all the countries of the world. Our friendship with the USSR is strong. We wish the United States would adopt a stand toward us and our national and pan-Arab issues similar to that of the USSR, or even slightly less, so we could say that a strong friendship binds us to the Untied States. The USSR supports us politically against Israeli aggression. Of course, we did not carry out any acts of aggression against Israel so that we can say it supported us in our aggression against Israel. It supports us in our defensive stand against aggression, and supports our struggle to liberate our occupied territories. We obtain arms from the USSR. True, what we get from the USSR is less than what the United States gives to Israel, but we get arms from the USSR, while the United States supports Israel in its occupation of our territories and gives it sophisticated weapons to entrench its occupation of our territory. It also gives Israel unlimited political support. The U.S. veto is always at the service of Israel and without argument. How can we, in such a situation, describe our relationship with the USSR as one of hegemony and influence, when the USSR is not interfering in our internal affairs or trying to impose its foreign policy opinions on us. What I want to say is that the USSR, in return for its fair stands on our side against Israeli aggression and invasion, does not impose on us things which are connected with our internal or external affairs. On the other hand, despite

its military, political, and economic support for Israel, the United States tries to impose its opinions on us.

[Evans] You said that the United States uses the veto in the interest of Israel. Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 were not opposed by the United States. What happened to these two resolutions and what is their present status?

[Al-Asad] The two resolutions are frozen like all other UN resolutions which call on Israel to withdraw from the territories it occupies. The killing of these two resolutions took place according to Israel's wish and with the support of the United States. This is what the Lebanese-Israeli agreement means. This is what I meant by the U.S. support. Because the agreement was intended to kill the two resolutions. One can say that the United States had approved many of the just UN resolutions, but it has never carried them out. Resolutions 508 and 509 are one example.

[Evans] If you say to Mr MacFarlane what you have just said about Resolutions 508 and 509, what will his answer be?

[Al-Asad] Usually, when we speak with U.S. officials and our talk reaches the point where we have to express a frank opinion or adopt a clear stand on a certain topic or point, and this opinion or stand conflicts with the Israeli wish, the Americans remain silent and are unable to do anything. Take the example of Philip Habib. When Philip Habib came to us at one stage of the Lebanese problem to discuss the subject of the Israeli forces, I told him that we abide by the matters which we agreed on. This is our right to which we must stick, and it is your duty to abide by it. What was his reply? Hsi reply was that he shook his head and said, verbatim, I believe: Many things have happened against our wish. It was as if he was complaining. This is one example. As you can see, this does not justify the United States' non-adherence to its commitments. I mentioned this to Mr Shultz when he came here in the presence of Philip Habib. I asked: What is the use of agreements then?

[Evans] What did Shultz say then?

[Al-Asad] He remained silent.

[Evans] What are the chances of progress toward the reformulation of the Lebanese Government if the Lebanese-Israeli agreement; namely the Shultz agreement, is allowed to remain as it is?

[Al-Asad] If the Shultz agreement remains, the situation — in its best state — will remain as it is. I say best state in the general sense of the word. Naturally, this state is not the best.

[Evans] Do you not see that the Americans are really ready to make some changes on the agreement?

[Al-Asad] I do not want to embark on likely conclusions. I neither rule this out nor emphasize it. I neither deny nor confirm. In my opinion, the amendments must be submitted.

[Evans] If amendments are made and then the Lebanese Government asks your country to withdraw its forces, will Syria be ready to relinquish the responsibility entrusted to it in Lebanon by the Arab League if it is asked to do so?

[Al-Asad] We have entered under certain circumstances and will leave under similar circumstances. We entered under circumstances when there was not a single Israeli soldier in Lebanon and at the request of the legitimate authority in Lebanon. We will leave when there is no longer any Israeli soldier in Lebanon and when the legitimate authority asks us to leave, that is, after the Israelis' departure.

[Evans] Their unconditional departure?

[Al-Asad] Yes, I said that when we entered there were no Israeli conditions for Lebanon.

[Evans] If this is possible, can the situation between Syria and Israel improve, Mr President? This means if Israel withdraws unconditionally and the Syrian forces then withdraw, will this pave the way for some sort of a relationship between Syria and Israel?

[Al-Asad] No. This cannot lead to the improvement of the situation between Syra and Israel because the Arab-Israeli conflict did not begin in Lebanon and will not end in Lebanon. Lebanon is a problem within the framework of this conflict. When this problem ends or is solved, we will say that one of the problems of this conflict has been solved. There is the occupied Syrian land and there are the Palestinian people's rights.

[Evans] What I mean is the following: If the situation in Lebanon is remedied, will this remedy lead to a comprehensive solution?

[Al-Asad] I cannot imagine that anyone can say yes because the matter does not concern one side; it is related basically to the Israeli expansionist intentions. Let us suppose that the problem of Lebanon is solved and Israel remains in the Golan. In this case, the state of war will continue to exist. There are several elements which must all be solved so that a state of peace can be established in the region. I do not mean here solving them all at one time. We do not want to link the Lebanese question with the other elements of the problem. However, your question reminds me of another aspect of the subject. The solution of the Lebanese problem, which is one of the elements of the Arab-Israeli conflict, should be given priority. This means that this solution will impose itself as an entry toward the solution of the other elements.

[Evans] Allow me to ask a question about President Reagan's initiative. Was it a good beginning or not a beginning at all.

[Al-Asad] No, it was not a beginning. It was a link in a chain that began with the Israeli invasion.

[Evans] Have you ever discussed with Shultz, McFarlane, or any other U.S. officials the prospects of returning to a comprehensive conference like that of Geneva, in which the Soviet Union participates?

[Al-Asad] No U.S. official has proposed this. Therefore, we did not discuss it.

[Evans] Have you proposed it?

[Al-Asad] We have not, but we support it.

[Evans] Let me ask the question as follows: Is it possible from the general perspective of the Arab-Israeli conflict to solve this problem by a comprehensive agreement without the USSR's participation?

[Al-Asad] Is the United States neutral toward the Arab-Israeli conflict? The matter does not need any thinking. Therefore, the Soviet Union's participation is essential.

[Evans] I believe that the Lebanese president is coming to visit you. You may not want to discuss the matter, but I would like to hear about your relationship with President al-Jumayyil.

[Al-Asad] We supported his nomination for elections. He announced on several occasions that in his negotiations with Israel, and with the participation of the Americans, he would not give Israel anything that conflicted with, first, the Lebanese national accord; second, Lebanon's sovereignty; and third, the relations with Syria and the Arab countries. He did not mention them in exactly the same order. Of course, the Lebanese- Israeli agreement has come contrary to all that. This shows that another power has imposed this agreement.

I am saying this, because the Lebanese president has announced the bases and principles I referred to on many occasions. When we supported him, this meant that we assessed him positively. But this did not mean that he should commit such a major Arab national mistake and that we should go along with him. I am saying it was a an Arab national mistake, because it harmed Lebanon and the Arabs.

[Evans] Have you given up hope in the possibility of President al-Jumayyil fulfilling these three stands which he announced during his election campaign? Is it not possible that he can still fulfill these stands?

[Al-Asad] We always fight mistakes. When the mistakes are corrected, then the situation will be all right.

[Evans] Then the mistake can be corrected.

[Al-Asad] Yes, especially when 90 percent of the Lebanese are against this mistake. Because, if the mistake continues, Lebanon would either be lost or all the Lebanese would be killed, and this is impossible.

[Announcer] In response to several questions, the president said that some people in the United States want Syria to retreat so that the U.S. Administration can move Syria in any direction. These people must now have learned from the recent developments that Syria, whether weak or strong, cannot be made to accept things contrary to its interests. Some people want Syria to go back to the situation which existed in September 1982. They seem to forget that we have already passed this September which they are talking about and Syria did not agree to anything which conflicts with its interests. What is the use of wasting time and effort and taking us back to September, especially when such an effort could involve the killing of American and Syrian soldiers. I cannot see the wisdom in such an opinion.

Asked his opinion about certain officials in the U.S. Administration in comparison to former officials, the president said: I do not discuss matters on a personal level, because I do not believe that the question concerns a certain person or persons, but is a political issue. Without the need to mention names, I can say, in light of U.S. actions in our region and also in light of the assumptions, that the advice which is given by U.S. aides, advisers, and secretaries plays a major role in the decisions or actions taken by the U.S. Administration. In light of all this, I can say that the advice which is given neither benefits us nor the American people. Of course, we do not want that. And we hope that they will be beneficial. Had they been beneficial, we would not have experienced this state of tension and its world repercussions. We judge by the results.

Khaddam 15 Nov Statement to People's Assembly

JN152155 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1925 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text of a political statement 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, delivered at the Syrian People's Assembly on 15 November 1983, video-recorded]

[Text] Mr Speaker of the Assembly, honorable members. Thirteen years ago at this time, our nation witnessed the birth of a new stage under the leadership of leader President Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. The 16th of November marked a new stage in its course, practice, and objectives which have turned Syria not only into a modern country, but also into a strong one, whose sons enjoy the power to take action when the homeland calls for undertaking an action, and the power to sacrifice when the homeland needs sacrifice.

The 16th of November was a renewal of Syria's pan-Arab youth and a further confirmation of its militant role. Your party and leader wished to see your country growing to the same size of the nation's aspriations and ambitions. The past years were ones of construction, action, and efforts in accordance with your pan-Arab role. This was done in a stage during which the sense of responsibility to confront the dangers has almost disappeared. Arab Syria, which you have built up with your sweat and the blood of your sons, is preoccupying the world with its political position, power, and determination so the course of struggle may always remain open until our nation achieves the victory it has been looking forward to for several years.

You, Syrians, preferred to endure the burdens and pains imposed by your faith in your right to remain masters in your country, honorable in your homeland, and free men struggling so your nation may regain its role and status among the nations. We have chosen a course whose easiest task is to endure, sacrifice, and confront so we can practice our right to live and to defend our children's right to live.

Under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, Syria will never be but the Syria which is looked upon by the Arab nation's masses; the Syria that belongs to all the Arabs that struggle for

the sake of their causes, that endures for the sake of their integrity and honor, and not paying any attention to the stands of a malicious person, the lies of a deviationist, and the involvement of a suspect. The more your country determines, honorable members, to carry out its historic role, the bigger the size of the dangers becomes. The more you are determined to stay masters in your land and free in your country, the more you have to confront that vicious colonialist power, which considers the peoples as tools to serve its interests and ambitions.

We had to choose one of two courses: the course of slavery and humiliation, and become mere tools serving the Zionist and imperialist interests, or the course of freedom and integrity. We chose the course and position; the course of freedom and honor, and the position of steadfastness and the defense of our values, land, and honor.

Mr Speaker, honorable members. In light of these intricate international conditions, which are similar to those that precede the stage of armed confrontation among the super and great powers; in light of the continued Israeli aggression against the Arab nation; and within the framework of the world Zionism's designs, the situation in the Middle East region witnesses a very acute, serious, and dangerous point that threatens all the accomplishments we have achieved since our independence and, furthermore, threatens to liquidate the Arab nation and its will for existence and continuation. The U.S. and Israeli threats have been coupled with a U.S. naval concentration, an Israeli call up of the reserve, and a suspicous French move motivated by colonialist tendencies found in some French leaders. Some U.S. circles are trying to find justifications for the aggression, claiming that Syria is connected with what happened to the U.S. Marines in Beirut despite their knowledge that Syria had no connection with the explosion incident, and that Syria is a country which acts with full responsibility.

The main objective behind the threat of aggression or the use of aggression is not related to Syria's alleged connection with the explosion incident to which the U.S. Marines had been subjected. It is intended to undermine Syria's ability to be an obstacle in the face of the U.S.-Israeli design to control the region. These threats are coupled with the talk about U.S. interests in the region and its security in Lebanon. The U.S. officials thus fail to realize that the best enemy of their interests is their own policy, which is based on threats, oppression, and provocation.

It is impossible that any party's security will be realized at the expense of our security, and it is impossible that its interests will be realized through striking at our interests. Regarding these threats and moves, the Syrian leadership has taken the recent defensive measures for two reasons: First, to enable us to deter aggression and defend ourselves if we are exposed to aggression — and this is our legitimate right to defend the land and independence — and so nobody will be deluded that aggression against Syria would be a picnic. We wanted to tell them that these steadfast patient people deserve their land, independence, and honor and that they will confront aggression with their elderly, children, men, and women. The second reason for the defensive measures was to prevent anyone from thinking that he can blackmail us by the threat of force or the use of forces to impose certain conditions or situations.

We wanted to tell everyone that our country is small in size but it is strong in its determination and ability to grant and sacrifice in order to safeguard the soil of the homeland and defend the nation's honor. We have held a series of Arab and international contacts, and we exchanged views and consultations within the framework of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with the Soviet Union during my recent visit to Moscow some days ago, and we discussed the situation in the region from all aspects. The USSR affirmed that it stands by Syria firmly and decisively. The two sides also asserted their full commitment to the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation that exists between the two countries.

Mr Speaker, honorable members: The situation in Lebanon represents a principal part of the tense and complicated situation in the region because this fraternal country is still suffering from the civil war and its tragedies as well as the pains and crimes of the Israeli occupation. Since the beginning of the bloody events in Lebanon, our viewpoint has been clear: that there will be no security, stability, and peace in this fraternal country without a dialogue and a national accord, which will achieve national reconciliation and set up a balanced national rule in which all parties participate and all the Lebanese feel that they are equal in rights and duties. Since the beginning of events in 1975, we have announced that fighting will never be an effective means to decide an internal conflict. It seems today that achieving a national accord is an urgent need for Lebanon to continue as a unified and independent country.

We had earnestly cooperated with Saudi Arabia in ending the fighting in the mountain area and in arriving at a method for holding a national dialogue conference. We have also contributed to the success of the first phase of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference in Geneva. During the first round of talks, an agreement was reached on an issue that everyone took for granted. It was the issue of Lebanon's Arab identity with all the requirements of that identity concerning policies, measures, and arrangements. The 17 May agreement was also discussed in an atmosphere of responsibility and within the framework of the desire to achieve the removal of all the obstacles that are hampering the realization of the national accord. It was obvious that there was a unanimous concept of the dangers of that agreement to Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, independence, and security and the security of the entire region. The first round of the national accord talks was encouraging and called for optimism, and all of us should exert all possible efforts to make the dialogue successful and achieve the national accord to rescue this fraternal country, which has and is still suffering the pains of the civil war that cannot be endured or imagined. It also suffers from the Israeli occupation's pressures and dangers.

I would like to indicate in this regard that some sides, particularly the Israeli enemy, may try to obstruct dialogue and destroy the march of accord by using elements linked to them in Lebanon. Therefore, we would like to ask all the Lebanese brothers to realize the dangers posed by the continuation of the fighting to their future and existence. We also ask them to place the welfare and future of their country above any other consideration.

The sides which want to escalate tension in the region and expand the area of aggression are the ones seeking to destroy the march

of national dialogue, paying no attention to the pains and suffering of the Lebanese as evident in their attempt to impose the 17 May agreement on Lebanon and resist the Lebanese people's will to get rid of it. They realize that this agreement is now the main obstacle to Lebanon's salvation.

Mr Speaker, in addition to the tragedy of Lebanon there is another painful and horrible tragedy. It is the division and fratricide taking place in the Palestinian arena. Division began over the stand on the conflict with the Israeli enemy and over the stand on the policies aimed at liquidating the Palestinian question. It turned from a discussion within the Fatah movement into a suspect campaign against Syria at a time when the Syrian Armed Forces in Lebanon were fighting to the best of their ability in defense of the Lebanese soil and the Palestinian existence. We have put up with harm and offense, although we realized that the ones who were involved in this campaign only served aims other than those of the Palestinian revolution.

In the current situation, every rational person realizes the grave consequences of the attempt to break off the links between the Palestinian revolution and Syria — consequences which harm the essence of the Palestinian cause. The aim of these suspect campaigns is the same as that of the U.S. and Israeli campaigns of threat. We have put up with all harm and tried since the beginning of the Fatah conflict to help the two sides reach an agreement. The [Ba'th] Party leadership formed a committee from its members. However, Yasir 'Arafat refused to cooperate with it. The PLO Central Council, upon 'Arafat's suggestion, formed a committee from 18 leading Palestinian personalities well known for their national stands, their sincere commitment to the revolution, and their struggle for the cause. All these personalities are residing in Jordan and the Gulf. None of them are residing in Syria. The committee submitted practical proposals to end the Fatah conflict. The opposition accepted this committee and 'Arafat rejected it. He also rejected reconciliation with the opposition as well as all recommendations and proposals aimed at ending the Fatah conflict. There was no justification for this rejection except the desire to liquidate the revolution and turn it into a bridge for a settlement in which the Palestinian question can be liquidated. He adopted a decision to settle the dispute by using military force against his brothers who worked with him for many years.

The campaign against Syria and the rejection of the proposals submitted by the PLO Central Council's committee were not a temporary affair in the history of events, but one of the premeditated and well studied plans to put our Palestinian people in a desert of despair in which hope dies out and in which these people throw themselves under the feet of those who have a long history of liquidating the Palestinian question and Palestinian identity.

The venomous campaign against Syria, at a time when it is facing serious threats of a military aggression, reflects the deviationist position in the Palestinian arena and the role of those who have forgotten the Israeli enemy and waged an unfair campaign to undermine steadfast Syria and its nationalist policy. They say that Syria wants to contain the PLO and confiscate Palestinian decisionmaking. They forget, however,that the Syrian president played the leading role in the 1974 Rabat conference which firmly established the organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They want to undermine this country, which sponsored the Palestinian revolution, so as to cross over to the [Jordanian] regime, whose main concern is to cancel the Palestinian identity.

The campaign of incrimination and lies that are being launched by those who fell into the deviationist position are meant to undermine the Palestinian revolution so that nothing of it remains other than a flag raised above an embassy and a sign of victory raised in celebration or in front of a camera. Those who speak about the independent Palestinian decisionmaking must understand that nobody is independent in a decision which is connected with the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Palestine question is not a liberation issue which we are assisting, but it is our national and pan-Arab cause. Nobody has any right to make a separate decision on this issue. Those who are seeking a Palestine and the Palestinian people's rights will not be able to achieve them by raising the sign of victory, but only by working with their hearts, minds, and bodies to make Arab commitment to the cause a serious and a true one because no nationalist can say that several hundreds of armed men are able to regain the land and the rights.

Palestinian national commitment makes it incumbent on the Palestinans to adhere more than the Arabs to Arabism and the independent national decisionmaking. They also should urge all Arabs to form one front that is committed to the cause. Without this, the Palestine question will never be able to live up to the honest Arabs' aspirations. If those people have any right to decide or act independently toward the Arab-Israeli conflict, is there any justification for the campaign they are launching against Syria? Those who have fallen into the deviationist position should understand that the course they are following is not the right course. Did they ask themselves: What purpose can this campaign of lies and incrimination against Syria and its Armed Forces serve? Why are the Syrian Arab people, who are facing pains, difficulties, and threats and confronting the concentrations and the fleets to prevent the fall of the Palestine question being rewarded with lies, injustice, and incrimination? Are the Syrians, who send the youths of Syria to the Armed Forces to sacrifice their blood to confront the aggression, rewarded with lies? We are asking from this forum: Had it accepted the policy of As-Sadat or of the Jordanian regime, would Syria have been exposed to these threats, the concentrations of the NATO fleets, and these economic difficulties and pressures? Are the tens of thousands of Syrians who fell for the sake of defending Palestine rewarded with campaigns of incrimination and lies? They understand very well that Syria has nothing to do with the current bloody conflict. It tried to avoid it and to realize a reconciliation between the two sides of the Fatah movement by encouraging them to end the crisis through a democratic dialogue. They, however,decided to achieve a military solution and step up the campaign against Syria for political purposes.

The one who adopted a decision to militarily settle the intra-Fatah conflict is the one who is held responsible. We know well that this decision was not adopted by the opposition. The one who came to Tripoli and began a physical liquidation of scores of Palestinian fighters in the Al-Baddawi camp and then liquidated scores of Lebanese nationalists and expelled the nationalist parties which covered up all his mistakes, practices, and negative

actions during the previous stage in Lebanon is held responsible for the eruption of the bloody and tragic fighting in the Palestinian arena.

We have obtained documents showing that contacts have been taking place between those who chose the course of hostility toward Syria and its pan-Arab line and the Camp David partners and France in order to arrange the next phase in the plan, which is to move to Jordan and sign an agreement empowering the Jordanian regime to negotiate with the Israeli enemy. We tell those who have chosen to use the Palestinian revolution as a bridge to cross over to the other side: Could you not have crossed over without tearing the Palestinian arena and planting hopelessness in the hearts of the Palestinians and the Arabs in general? Could you not have crossed over as individuals without undermining the revolution and shedding this innocent blood? This will not be either in your interest or in the interest of those waiting on the other bank hoping to receive those who are trying to cross over because the Palestinian revolution will remain stronger than those who want to turn it into a bridge to liquidate the Palestine question.

Those dreaming of crossing over to the other side through Palestinian and Lebanese blood and the abduction of the militant and nationalist city of Tripoli must realize very well that this road is blocked. No one will help the kidnappers of Tripoli to undertake a role in a suspicious settlement. We tell them truly that a militant wrests his role by confronting the Palestine question's enemies and not by confronting the sons of this question.

The campaign of incrimination against Syria and its Armed Forces cannot harm our determination and insistence on continuing to abide by our national and pan-Arab commitment to the Palestine question and our Palestinian Arab people. We challenge them to point out any Syrian soldier who has participated in the current fighting in one way or another. Their accusation against the Syrian Armed Forces is part of a campaign to prepare for aggression against Syria.

They fell into the trap and they must be held responsible for that. Under no circumstances will we react to the injustice and incrimination to which we have been subjected because Syria, the mother and the owner of the Palestine question, cannot punish itself by killing its own cause. I would like to reaffirm the following principles of Syria's policy toward the Palestine question, the principles which I outlined in my statement to your honorable assembly on 29 June:

1. The Palestine question is not the cause of a liberation movement we are assisting. It is a national and pan-Arab cause. It is a national cause because Israel threatens Syria exactly as it threatened Palestine. It is a pan-Arab cause because Palestine is a part of the homeland in which we believe, and its people are part of the nation to which we proudly belong. Otherwise, our country would not have endured all these grave burdens in confronting the Zionist entity, and its sons would not have raced enthusiastically to fight the Israelis since the beginning of the Palestine question.

2. The PLO is a great pan-Arab accomplishment and Syria has played a big role in its achievement and in strengthening the PLO within the Arab and international frameworks. Consequently, the PLO's unity is one of the sanctities on which Syria cannot be lenient.

3. The Arab-Israeli conflict is a pan-Arab struggle and, therefore, no side has the right to act independently on this conflict. No Arab side can make an independent decision on this issue, its future, and settlement. The Arab parties' independent decision, including that of the PLO, lies in the preparation for and contribution to the administration of the conflict and the fighting to achieve the pan-Arab objectives.

4. We are with the unity of the Fatah movement and with the restoration of the dialogue to preserve this movement's unity so it can carry out its national role in the struggle against the enemy.

5. Our stance on any Palestinian faction or leader is determined by this faction or leader's abidance by the Palestine question, the clearness of his course, the sincerity of his behavior, and the seriousness of his adherence.

We appeal to everyone to become aware of the dangers surrounding this question and to facilitate the restoration of the Palestinian arena's unity on the basis of preserving the PLO's unity and abiding by the PNC's resolutions. We appeal to those who rejected the Palestinian arena's unity so they could cross over to where they believe there are certain opportunities for a settlement. We ask them to abandon any role in which they have been involved, to appeal to thier common sense and conscience, to have mercy on their question, and to realize that the position of the militants is not where they stand, but where the militants stand against the Israeli aggression and the U.S.- Israeli threats.

We appeal to them to become aware of the dangers of the choice they made before the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. We ask them to return to the national position, where the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian character are protected. The clamor of the Western, Jordanian, and the Camp David group's media must be enough to convince you that they stand with you as much as you stand with them.

Mr Speaker, honorable members. The current developments in the region reemphasize the continuing need for continuing to act in accordance with the 16 Novemebr course in the various internal, Arab, and international spheres. The responsibilities are big and difficult. Abandoning these responsibilities means the loss of the homeland, our integrity, and hope. We are confident that our nation will surmount all the difficulties and remove the obstancles hindering its march. History has taught us that there is nothing stronger than the people that possess determination and persistence. Thank you.

Soviet Reportage on Khaddam Visit to Moscow

For Soviet reportage on Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's talks in Moscow, including *PRAVDA*'s version of the communique issued at the end of his visit, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 15 November Soviet Union *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Differences Among U.S. Political Figures Noted

JN151529 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States is moving militarily and politically in line with a new method of delusion and misrepresentation in which it might realize its long-cherished wish for arranging a surprise action. This might be due to the fact that contradictions among the leading figures in the U.S. Administration has become a familiar phenomenon. George Shultz disagrees with Robert McFarlane, and Weinberger disagrees with Shultz. However, this contradiction does not imply any U.S. truce with the peoples as much as it implies pushing international events toward more serious crises and more commitment to the sources of danger and its pretexts. While this U.S. method of delusion represents a cover for the decided aggression and for what has been agreed upon between the U.S. Administration and the Zionist leadership, we do not believe that the United States is able to reconcile its betrayal and the true nature of its trends which nobody trusts.

Syria, which is one of the forces among the targets of aggression and whose positions the Reagan administration is trying to harm, will not trust the United States and will not be deceived by the contradictions between Shultz and McFarlane as long as U.S. fleets are being concentrated and as long as U.S. and Israeli positions aim at preparing for a military action around which the objectives and interests of world imperialism and racist Zionism coincide. The United States, which does not fulfill its promises and commitments, believes through this new game of mileading that it can create the circumstance under which it might take others by surprise, which it prepared for and completed before the U.S. Marines had a foothold in Lebanese territory. At a time when McFarlane is threatening, George Shultz claims that discussions of a plan to deal a blow to the Syrian forces have not yet been completed. But the existing ties between Washington and Tel Aviv clarify what is hidden in the U.S. statements. Israel possesses all the elements that can set off the situation in the Middle East, including U.S. approval of every Israeli measure.

At a time when McFarlane agrees with Levi and Arens, it is inevitable for the CIA to create more pretexts as signs of aggression. While it does not consider concentrating its fleets far away from U.S. borders as an aggressive action, the Reagan administration considers Syria's right to security and safety for its forces an act that threatens Israel's safety and the U.S. warships in the eastern Mediterranean. Syria also does not conceal its position. It is in a state of confrontation with Israel as much as it is in confrontation with all the forces that support the Israeli aggression against the Arabs. Syria also does not conceal that it is committed to defending the Arab nation as much as it is committed to defending its borders and existence. As Lebanese territory represents part of the Arab land, Syria will not allow the United States and Israel, together, to divide Lebanon and its territory between themselves and to plan to wrest it from the Arab body, despite the fact that the United States is a superpower and Israel stands under the U.S. canopy.

Syria, which has vowed to undermine Camp David and the U.S. initiatives, does not fear the consequences, although it understands these consequences' dimensions and effects. The surprise which U.S. diplomacy is trying to hide by making a number of contradictory and misleading statements will not represent any surprise for Syria because confidence in the United States is null and impossible just as confidence in its ally, Israel, is null and impossible.

U.S. 'Threats' Part of Warning to Arab Cause

JN151047 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1055 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 15 Nov (SANA) — In a commentary today, the newspaper *TISHRIN* says: In their explanation of the U.S. threats against Syria, those who are promoting the U.S. solutions are saying that the United States is threatening war in order to prevent it occurring in a region that cannot tolerate further suffering. The paper adds: This interpretation of the U.S. threats is not an innocent one, but is part of the warning to Arab nationalism which is led by Syria. This interpretation is also aimed at concealing what Israel and Washington are preparing against Syria after the Israeli-U.S. coordination has come into force. The paper points out that the common denominator between what the United States does in the Middle East, Asia, and the Caribbean is the major feature of the U.S. policy toward any region in the world seeking to dispose of the U.S. influence. The paper continues: The objectives of the U.S. presence in Lebanon do not differ from the objectives of the U.S. presence in any part of the world. President Reagan admitted this when he linked the U.S. presence in Korea, Lebanon, and the Caribbean. The paper points to McFarlane's statements in Korea in which he warned Syria against attacking the U.S. planes which overfly the Lebanese territory. It says: The Syrian decision is not affected by the U.S. threats that Washington has launched, but is dictated by the joint higher interests of Syria and Lebanon.

TISHRIN concludes: The developments indicate that what the U.S. Army did in Korea 30 years ago is likely to take place in the Middle East and Latin America, but Syria will never allow this to happen.

Soviets Seek To Make Tartus Naval Base

PM151249 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 12-18 Nov 83 p 8

[From the "Correspondents' Dispatches"]

[Text] Arab diplomatic sources said that a Soviet military delegation visited Syria recently and had talks with Syrian officials regarding the establishment of a Soviet naval base in the port of Tartus and permission for the Soviet Navy to operate freely in Syrian waters. The Soviet delegation informed the Syrian officials that the aim of these facilities would be to observe the movements of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean. The Syrians told the delegation that they are ready to consider the request and that they want to hold Arab consultations before taking a decision on the matter.

Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist' Base in Al-Biqa'

TA160756 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0752 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] The IDF spokesman has announced that Air Force aircraft this morning attacked a terrorist base housing terrorists from organizations linked to Iran. The Air Force attack took place about 7 km east of Riyaq in the Al-Biqa'. The base serves as a training base and for launching attacks. All our planes returned safely to their bases. Our pilots reported accurate hits against the targets attacked.

'New Dimension' in Policy

TA161143 Jerusalem Domestic Servic in Hebrew 1110 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Interview with political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer by newsreel anchorman 'Amiqam Rothman in the studio — live]

[Text] [Rothman] Does the Air Force attack today represent a new policy?

[Schiffer] This may not be a new policy but the Air Force operation today introduced a new dimension, a dimension discussed by the Cabinet in the last few days, that is, this is the first time since the Lebanon War that Israel has sent its Air Force aircraft into areas the IDF did not take over in the war and areas it did not evacuate. Until recently, the policy was — the Air Force carried out a raid according to this policy on one occasion — that Israel would not allow terrorist organizations to take positions in areas vacated by the IDF in Lebanon and that the IDF, particularly the Air Force aircraft, would be sent to attack these targets.

Today, the Air Force aircraft were sent to attack targets deep inside territory where there has never been an IDF presence. This is also a signal that the IDF and Israel will not allow terrorist organizations to take positions anywhere.

[Rothman] The use of the Air Force usually brings a U.S. reaction. What is the reaction expected or known about?

[Schiffer] This issue was discussed by various government factors. It is assessed that the United States will be pleased about this move. Recently, following the attack on the Marines in the Beirut area, there have been very frequent contacts between Israel and the United States in which information was relayed, and it was made clear beyond a shadow of a doubt that the attack on the Marines, the attack on the IDF soldiers in the Tyre area, as well as the attack on the French troops in Beirut were perpetrated by the same organization which was attacked today. It has been assessed in Jerusalem that the Americans may attack and retaliate against this Iranian element. When the U.S. reaction was late in coming, it was apparently decided that Israel would do the job; not for the Americans but in reaction to what happened to the IDF soldiers in Tyre. This is also the background for the assessment in Jerusalem that liberal elements in the United States, which usually protest Israeli Air Force operations and the use of U.S. aircraft by Israel, would also favor this issue because — and this was also stressed in the IDF spokesman's announcement — there is an Iranian element in question. As you know, the Iranian cause is deeply hated in the United States because of the hostage affair. Therefore, I believe that this point will be stressed by Israel in its explanations.

[Rothman] Can it be assumed that the matter will come up in the talks the prime minister will hold today with the new U.S. envoy, Donald Rumsfeld.

[Schiffer] The U.S. envoy is arriving in Israel. At the beginning of the meeting, he will probably be briefed about the Israeli operation and about the Cabinet's decision and determination to continue attacking the various groups which operate against or attempt to attack Israeli as well as U.S. soldiers. After he has been briefed about the Israeli operation, they will discuss the Israeli and U.S. position about reaching some kind of arrangement in Lebanon. This is why the new envoy is arriving here. Because he is a newcomer and because he is not familiar with the area and the issues discussed here in the last few months, this will be a kind of get-acquainted tour during which he will learn about the positions of the sides. This time it is not expected that pressure will be exerted on Israel to make any kind of concessions in its policy. However, it should be pointed out that, in the future, once the new envoy has become acquainted with the issues, there is no doubt that there will be pressure on Israel to make concessions on several matters pertaining to Lebanon.

Military Correspondent on Attack

TA161135 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1110 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Report by the military correspondent Shmu'el Tal — live]

[Text] The Air Force attacked a base of terrorists linked to Iran. These terrorists are stationed in the Al-Biqa', some 7 km east of Riyaq. The Air Force proceeded very carefully in the area and took pains to attack the predetermined targets because there are also Syrians in the area. Buildings, tents, and antiaircraft cannons were destroyed. The pilots reported accurate hits.

The attack took the terrorists by surprise at a site where they conduct intensive activities within the area of the Syrian deployment. The IDF's policy is to attack the terrorists wherever they may be and to choose the method and time of the operation. Thus, the IDF refrains from getting dragged into a war of attrition, contrary to the wishes of the terrorists. This also makes it plain to the terrorists that the attacks they carry out will not go unheeded.

The attack on the Iran-oriented terrorists today further made it plain to them that the IDF knows beyond a shadow of the doubt the identity of the perpetrators of the attack in Tyre and the site from which the terrorists launch their attacks.

Military Confirms Syrian Missiles in Lebanon

TA151739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Military sources have confirmed that along with the Syrian forces in the Lebanese Al-Biqa', there are several batteries of SA-9 antiaircraft missiles. Those sources, however, did tell

our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the IDF knew nothing about a concentration of Syrian mechanized divisions or a concentration of commando troops on Syrian airfields.

[Tal — live in studio] Military sources are saying that the Syrian SA-9 missiles have been in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' as part of the Syrian units' antiaircraft system for quite some time now. The same sources say the IDF is keeping a watch over signs in Syria that the Soviets might gradually also transfer the operation of the SA-5 missile batteries to the Syrians.

The military sources tell us that the IDF knows nothing about a concentration of mechanized divisions or a concentration of commando battalions on airfields, as publicized by foreign media, nor is there any confirmation of the reports that 500 Soviet experts have left Syria. They think the IDF does not believe a lightning strike by Syria is to be expected within the next few days, or that the Syrians think that an all-out offensive will be opened against them.

Shamir Reiterates No Danger of War With Syria

TA152009 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] This evening Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir repeated that, in his opinion, despite the great army concentrations in Syria, war is not expected. He also said the Soviets were not leaving Syria, but consolidating there. The prime minister was meeting with members of the Agudat Yisra'el faction for a political discussion before his trip to the United States.

No 'Sudden' Attack Expected

TA151957 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Senior military sources again said tonight that no sudden Syrian attack on Israel is expected in the near future and that the Syrians do not fear an all-out attack by Israel. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky quotes those sources as saying that there are no signs in the field of a change in Syrian military deployment.

Herzog on Syrian Activities

TA160654 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] President Hayim Herzog is currently visiting the United States. He stated yesterday that the United States should set red lines with regard to the Syrian activities in Lebanon. Syria respects such lines, Herzog said, and Israel has learned as much from past experience. The president will address the UN General Assembly today. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports from New York:

[Begin recording] [Barqay] His agenda is full of performances and speeches. The president is time and again asked about the Lebanese issue. "I am not free to talk," Herzog tells his interlocutors and, at the same time, he emphasizes the role played by Syria in undermining stability in the Middle East. According to him, Al-Asad is pragmatic, calculating, and stands by his decisions. He tried to take over Beirut and stopped in his tracks when the United States displayed its determination.

[Herzog] The moment the Americans, the 6th Fleet, opened fire, the Syrians got the message. Since then there has been no military effort — well, there has been shooting — in the Suq Al-Gharb area. The conclusion, therefore, is that they take a very pragmatic approach to these matters in which they try to achieve whatever they can. The moment they see there is a line — whenever they are told "this is it and no more" — I have the feeling that they do not in principle advance their position once they know where the line has been drawn.

[Barqay] Are you, therefore, recommending that the United States initiate a military operation against Syria to curb its intentions in Lebanon? — Herzog was asked. The president replied: I cannot talk about it. If I were not president, but rather a military commentator, I would probably elaborate.

Referring to Israeli-U.S. strategic cooperation, the president said: For some reason the issue has not been emphasized sufficiently, for example, in the field of extending medical aid. These issues should be implemented in broad daylight rather than in secret, the president believes.

As noted, Herzog will return today to the well-known arena he abandoned 5 years ago. He will address the UN General Assembly and voice harsh words against the positions the organization has been adopting against Israel. [end recording]

Syrian Preparedness for Military Action Outlined

TA151341 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 15 Nov 83 pp 1, 7

[Article by military commentator Eytan Haber: "Syrian Intentions 'Under the Surface'"]

[Text] The IDF is not particularly excited about recent reports regarding Syria's aggressive intentions. Nothing has happened in the last few days that did not happen 2 weeks ago and the General Staff believes that the media's latest fuss about Syria's aggressive intentions should be attributed to Deputy Prime Minister David Levi who has recently made numerous statements on political and military issues.

Beyond the latest media fuss there is a feeling that things "are developing under the surface" which may attest to Syria's aggressive intentions. Military-related news is not particularly revealing and none of the reports are worrisome by themselves. However, when taken as a whole they give rise to concern.

What has happened in the Syrian military field recently?

— The Syrians concentrated their motorized divisions opposite the Golan Heights. The significance is that in the past the divisions were spread out in large concentrations, whereas today they are grouped together. If the Syrians decide to launch an attack they will not have to gather their forces before giving the

opening signal. Gathering forces involves open movements which would alert the IDF to advance preparations. The grouping of their forces enables them to launch an offensive within a short period of time, in a matter of a few hours only.

— Syrian commandos have been transferred from Lebanon to Syria. According to one report, 30 commando battalions are involved. This report has not been confirmed but it appears to be at least partially true. Many Syrian commando batttalions are still stationed in Lebanon. Even if they are transferred to a particular battle zone, this may attest to offensive intentions. The commandos are the Syrian Army's strong point.

— Soviet experts have departed for Moscow. On the eve of the Yom Kippur War this move might have attested to preparations for war in Syria and Egypt. As known, however, this move was misinterpreted in 1973. It follows that the departure of Russian experts is at present being interpreted as it should have been on the eve of the Yom Kippur War in 1973. According to reports, about 500 Russians have left Syria, some of whom at least operated the SAM-5 antiaircraft missiles. The possibilities are that the Syrians are gradually taking over control of these missile systems, that forces are being replaced or that this may indicate Syrian offensive intentions in the near future. The Russians do not want to be involved in a war.

As said, each of these reports taken separately do not attest to an imminent war. However, their cumulative effect has sharpened our senses to such a possibility. At the Cabinet session yesterday Defense Minister Arens said that the IDF has taken measures. Therefore, there is nothing left to do but wait and see.

'Turnabout' in U.S. Policy in Lebanon Seen

TA151405 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Nov 83 p 10

[Commentary by Shmu'el Segev: "Lebanon: Turnabout in the Balance of Power"]

[Text] The public warning President Reagan's national security adviser, Robert McFarlane, issued to the Damascus authorities regarding U.S. aircraft flights over Lebanon is the first public expression of the U.S. decision to check Syria in Lebanon.

By warning Damascus against attacking the U.S. 6th Fleet aircraft, Washington sought to signal Moscow that the Soviet commitment to Syria's security does not apply to the areas it occupies in Lebanon. Thus, the United States took a similar position to the one taken at the time by Dr Henry Kissinger about the Israeli stronghold in the Sinai. Replying to a question before the U.S. Congress, Kissinger said that the U.S. commitment to Israel's security applies to the 5 June 1967 borders but not to the areas conquered in the 6-Day War. The United States has now also applied this rule to Damascus.

Still, McFarlane's warning goes beyond its verbal significance. After all, since the outbreak of the Lebanon war, the United States has accepted President Hafiz al-Asad's position and established a clear distinction between the Syrian presence in Lebanon — which it regarded as "legitimate" and as heeding the invitation of President Ilyas Sarkis — and the "Israeli invasion" of Lebanon. The situation has now changed. Syria has become an occupying force while the continued Israeli presence in southern Lebanon has become legal and compatible with the Israeli-Lebanese agreement signed on 17 May under the aegis of the United States. Therefore, in its capacity as an occupying force, Syria is no longer allowed to interfere with the operations of the U.S. Air Force which is patrolling Lebanese skies at the explicit request of Al-Jumayyil.

This turnabout in the U.S. position as well as the "message" entailed in the military intervention in Grenade explain Syria's failure at the Lebanese national reconciliation conference in Geneva and the atmosphere of war alert in Damascus. Despite the fact that since the Yom Kippur War Israel has not made light of Arab military movements, it would not be too risky to stipulate that Syria is not about to launch a new war against Israel, not to mention the United States. Given the current balance of power, President al-Asad does not have even the shadow of a chance to score any achievement whatsoever, not even a local achievement in the Golan Heights or in the Al-Biqa'. Needless to say, given the current balance of inter-Arab power, he does not stand any chance whatsoever of receiving the pan-Arab military support Egypt and Syria enjoyed in the Yom Kippur War.

If extended military movements really took place on the Syrian border — as *TIME* magazine reported yesterday — these movements can be considered more as precautions against a possible U.S.- Israeli attack than preparations for a Syrian-initiated offensive, either with or without the Soviet Union's blessing!

This substantial improvement in Israel's status in Lebanon must be coupled with a more practical dialogue with President Amin al-Jumayyil and faction leaders in Lebanon. Al-Jumayyil has refrained from ratifying the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and, subsequently, has actually "frozen" its implementation despite the fact that it was endorsed by the Lebanese parliament. This freeze, however, did not prevent talks between Israel and various factions in Beirut. Even today Israel should not initiate a public dialogue with Al-Jumayyil so as not to endanger the stability of his regime. However, such a dialogue must henceforth be more frequent and relevant.

In the next 12 months, U.S. experts will apparently manage to train a significant number of Lebanese units and this will enable President al-Jumayyil to also achieve his sovereignty beyond the "Beirut district." By then, the chances of national reconciliation among the various factions will also have become clear and Syria's ability to sow conflict between them to justify its continued presence in the Al-Biqa' and the Tripoli area will have been limited.

Israel is making a great sacrifice by leaving its forces in southern Lebanon for an additional period of time. President Amin al-Jumayyil must now prove that he recognizes the magnitude of this sacrifice and pay Israel in kind by expanding the understanding with it in various spheres.

The turnabout in the balance of power in Lebanon, whether it is temporary or more permanent, has already had an impact on Damascus and has moderated his struggle against Yasir 'Arafat. Al-Asad's illness and the surgery he had to undergo now provide

all the elements involved in the Lebanese crisis with an "interval" to reassess their positions. The visit to Washington at the end of this month by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens should be used to consolidate positions with President Reagan and his Cabinet members. The generous U.S. aid for the Lavi project constitutes a sort of indirect participation in the large expenditure stemming from the continued IDF presence in Lebanon. After all, by allowing it to change part of the aid into shekels to develop the Lavi, Israel can now allocate part of tis budget to finance the IDF's presence in Lebanon. Although Israel very much needs this aid, it needs more to have a real and long-term political understanding with the United States, an understanding that would not be shaken from one day to the next. Only if Al-Asad is convinced that the U.S.-Israeli understanding is stable and permanent will he reveal a real willingness to make a commitment in Lebanon.

Shamir Invites Jordan's King Husayn to Visit

JN151555 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has invited Jordan's King Husayn to pay an official visit to Jerusalem in order to begin negotiations with Israel on the conclusion of a peace agreement between the two countries. Shamir said that Israel — government and people — will accord the Jordanian king a friendly reception. He added: I invite the Jordanian king to visit Israel because many topics of common interest can be discussed.

Asked about the lukewarm peace between Egypt and Israel, Shamir said: Israel has recently begun negotiations with Egypt through Foreign Ministry Secretary General Dr David Kimche on the means to improve Israeli-Egyptian relations. He added that the Egyptian ambassador's absence from Israel is an intricate problem. However, he expressed his conviction that Dr Kimche's contacts will result in the resolution of this problem.

Shamir made these remarks in an exclusive interview with the correspondent of the magazine *YOMAN HASHAVU'A*, organ of the Likud bloc, to be published in its next issue the day after tomorrow, Thursday.

Knesset Committee Meets on Tyre, West Bank

TA151337 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee will hear a review tomorrow from Major General Amnon Reshef on the findings of the commission which looked into the Tyre terrorist act. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that the chief of staff will also appear before the committee tomorrow.

Several Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee members today demanded to receive the report for scrutiny. MAPAM's Victor Shemtov said there is no justificatiion for a parliamentary committee whose duty it is to supervise government and IDF activities to be left out of the picture. Labor Party MK Yosi Sarid charged that the IDF made tendentious leaks on the commission's findings. Likud MK Ehud Olmert repeated his criticism of the commission's findings. He addressed himself to the IDF spokesman's reaction to his criticism, saying that if the defense establishment has a complaint to make about a Knesset member, it is the defense minister who should voice it.

Knesset members Shemtov and Sarid demanded that the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee receive a report on incidents in the territories involving casualties. Yosi Sarid asked the committee members if any of them is prepared to swear that there was no choice in Tulkarm but to shoot to kill. The head of the committee, Likud MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, made it clear that he too supports the point that the committee should receive reports on incidents in the territories.

Corporal Dies of Wounds Sustained in Tyre

TA151329 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Lance Corporal Hasan Rajib, 19, died of his wounds in the Rambam Hospital in Haifa this morning. He was severely wounded in the Tyre disaster 10 days ago. His funeral will take place in Kafr Kamma in 2 hours.

Talks With New Mideast Envoy Rumsfeld Previewed

TA160643 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] Another U.S. envoy will be arriving in Israel this evening: Donald Rumsfeld. The new envoy will be arriving from Beirut, where he conferred with the Lebanese president and senior government officials. He will also try to find ways for an arrangement in Lebanon. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports:

[Schiffer — live] Donald Rumsfeld is a newcomer to the round of talks that is scheduled to open in Jerusalem. His purpose is to become acquainted with the complex issues pertaining to Lebanon. The prime minister and foreign minister and Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche will present the Israeli position, the gist of which is that a continuation of the IDF's presence on the present lines in Lebanon until a comprehensive arrangement is achieved will bring about the departure of the Syrians and the PLO, and the United States should stand by its commitment not to change the formulation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement in the wake of Syria's demands.

The steps that will be taken in light of the Syrian buildup in Lebanon and ways to shake the self-confidence of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who has so far foiled all arrangements in Lebanon, will also come up in the talks.

An interesting development occurred recently in this sphere. The United States asked Israel to give it data about terrorist targets in Lebanon. Israel relayed the data which were supposed to be used by the U.S. forces stationed off the Lebanese coast if and when it is decided to retaliate against the terrorists or other extreme groups who have been attacking the Marines in the Beirut area. As far as is known, the Americans have not yet used the data they received.

Political sources in Jerusalem believe that Donald Rumsfeld, who was defense secretary in the Ford Administration, advocates a firm approach to Syria just as his predecessor, Robert McFarlane, did. Rumsfeld plans to go to Damascus to hold talks with Al-Asad once the Syrian president recovers from his recent surgery for the removal of his appendix.

To sum up: Jerusalem is waiting for Rumsfeld, for some kind of initial seminar about the Lebanese problems. U.S. pressures for any Israeli concessions are not expected at the moment. These will come after Rumsfeld has become acquainted with the problems and has realized that the key to a comprehensive political solution in Lebanon lies in Damascus.

U.S. To Ask Shamir to Improve W. Bank Conditions

TA151325 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Nov 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report from the United States by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Excerpt] Washington — The leaders of the U.S. Administration will raise before Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens the issue of the conditions of the population in the administered territories. They will be asked to improve the economic and cultural conditions there.

Based on a plan prepared in the State Department (and reported by *HA'ARETZ* at the time) by a team headed by the special assistant to the assistant Secretary of State, William Kirby, it was decided to urge Israel to improve the conditions of the population in the territories. This request will be presented to Shamir and Arens as a matter of personal concern of Secretary of State George Shultz.

The Americans will probably ask Shamir and Arens to show tolerance regarding universities in the West Bank and to allow the flow of money from outside sources to various Palestinian institutions.

Other subjects which will be raised in the meetings are the situation in Lebanon, the ties with Arab countries which the United States considers moderate, and the means of tightening the cooperation between Israel and the United States.

The United States expects Shamir and Arens to bring along a final decision on the magnitude and nature of the economic aid that Israel is asking the United States for next year. The director general of the Defense Ministry and the assistant director general of the Foreign Ministry will go to Washington to prepare the visit.

Reopen Bethlehem University

TA151331 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Nov 83 p 4

[Report from Washington by 'Oded Granot]

[Excerpt] The United States has asked Israel to reopen Bethlehem University as soon as possible. The U.S. position, which was relayed through diplomatic channels, states that the closing of the university for 2 months is "exaggerated." In its appeal, the United States expressed the hope that the university would reopen "as soon as the situation allows." The United States adopted a similar position when the military government ordered high schools in Judaea and Samaria closed in the wake of student riots.

'Frustration, Rage' in Gaza Over PLO Fighting

TA151327 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Nov 83 p 3

[Report by correspondent in the south Dani Tzidqoni]

[Excerpt] The Israeli authorities in the Gaza Strip took combined measures by launching an information campaign and concentrating military units in sensitive areas in order to prevent and be ready to encounter riots resulting from agitation in the wake of the events in Tripoli. So far disturbances in the area have been marginal and inconsequential.

The Civilian Administration alerted the parents of students, according to files it holds on all the schools, and explained to the directors of education institutes and to the mukhtars that the only ones that will be hurt from the disruption of studies would be the students.

The *DAVAR* correspondent, who traveled in the area yesterday, reports that the frustration and rage of the population, which is partly directed against Syria, Libya, and Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] can be felt strongly. This is also expressed in the illegal slogans distributed in the area in which the above-mentioned are attacked while Israel is not mentioned at all.

Against the background of the deepening crisis in the PLO, the tendency to cooperate with Egypt is gaining momentum in the Gaza Strip. The visit to Cairo of former Gaza Mayor Rashad Ash-Shawwa, whose relations with the Egyptians have so far been cool, should be seen in this context. Ash-Shawwa was scheduled to return to the Gaza Strip yesterday.

Stone-Throwing Incidents Reported in West Bank

TA151813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Violence is continuing in the territories. Today an Israeli taxi driver fired into the air in Nabulus after he was attacked with stones. A border police vehicle was also stoned, but no one was hurt. Inhabitants of the town complain that more than 10 cars have been damaged by shots.

Sources at the An-Najah University in Nabulus told our correspondent Arye Gus that during the night the security forces arrested four university students and issued restrictive orders against two other students.

Inhabitants of Dura in the Hebron district today threw stones at the new municipality building during the inauguration ceremony. The head of the Civilian Administration in the territories, Shlomo Ilia, was present at the time, as well as the former head of the village leagues, Mustafa Dudin.

Ilia's car was slightly damaged and border police dispersed the stone-throwers with tear gas. Before that, Shlomo Ilia had visited the village league in Hebron and said that over the past few days it had been possible to notice that the path of the terrorist organizations is not leading anywhere.

Arens on Disturbances

TA152021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that the incident in Tulkarm in which two local youths were killed was a tragedy and he greatly regrets it. It has again been proved that anyone who throws a stone cannot predict the result. He was reporting to the Knesset today about the affair and related that five masked people had thrown stones at Israeli vehicles and local businessmen. Border policemen pursued them, called on them to stop, and fired two warning shots into the air. The force, which was then attacked with stones, was forced to fire at the masked people's legs and two of them were killed by the shots.

MK Sarid called to the minister several times: But why did they kill them? How is it that warning shots are fired and people are killed? The defense minister continued by saying that the stone-throwers were a small minority in Judaea and Samaria, inhabitants of the refugee camps. In Jordan and Syria there are also refugee camps and there is frustration and anger, but there are no demonstrations there because the authorities there use harsh measures that we do not use. Arens called on the teachers and school directors in Judaea and Samaria to help maintain law and order and calm things down, for the benefit of all. The defense minister was replying to four motions on the agenda about stone-throwing in the territories.

Jordan To Support West Bank Arab Mayors

TA151333 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Nov 83 p 2

[Report by Yosef Tzuri'el]

[Text] Although it has not publicly stated as much, Jordan is willing to support the candidacy of Arab mayors in Nabulus, Hebron, and Ramallah. Last night, it was learned from Arab sources that the willingness of the Jordanian authorities stems from the weakening of the PLO. To prevent a confrontation with the PLO factions, the Jordanians are willing to go halfway and tacitly agree to the appointment of mayors instead of those who were deposed. The candidates in question are Ja'far al-Masri of Nabulus, Wahid Ja'bari of Hebron, and Nadim Zarru of Ramallah. These men have in the last few months held contacts with Jordanian authorities about their possible appointment as mayors.

West Bank Figures Interviewed on Tripoli Events

JN151840 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1543 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The bloody incidents which Tripoli and the Palestinian camps in north Lebanon are currently witnessing attract the attention of the West Bank citizens. Our correspondent on West Bank affairs, Rif'at Qaddur, met with Mustafa Dudin, Jamil al-'Amlah, and 'Abd al-Fattah Dudin.

Mustafa Dudin, former president of the village leagues federation, talks about these incidents and their consequences and says:

[Begin recording] [Mustafa Dudin] In fact, these incidents had been expected for a long time because there were centers of power inside Fatah that were dominating everything. The rest of the movement sacrificed without getting anything. Certainly, the continuation of such a situation made this discord inevitable. Holding parties other than the PLO responsible for this act is unjust because if Fatah had been cohesive and there had been no cause for this discord nobody could have intervened. We are all hurt by what is taking place, but this is what we have at present.

[Qaddur] Mr Dudin, what are your expectations and ideas on the future?

[Dudin] My ideas for the future are that Jordan must again take the initiative in order to negotiate for peace. There is no other alternative. If the PLO ends in this expected manner, I believe Jordan will conduct elections for a new parliament to include the two banks of the Jordan, and those who will be elected will be legitimate representatives. Thus, these representatives will assume the process of negotiations for peace. [end recording]

On the course of events in Tripoli and north Lebanon, Jamil Falah al-'Amlah, head of the village leagues in the Hebron governorate, says:

[Begin recording] [Jamil Falah al-'Amlah] The course of events in the Lebanese arena is tragic and has filled our hearts with sadness and sorrow, particularly since the fighting and the bloodshed is taking place between brothers. In fact, the behavior of the Syrians, Libyans, and Fatah dissidents is disgraceful. We strongly denounce and condemn the attempts aimed at wiping out the Palestinians and containing the Palestine question in order to use it to serve their personal objectives. These events and their consequences make us in the village leagues movement adhere more to our principles and the proper method of action for peaceful coexistence with our neighboring Israeli people through constructive dialogue and direct negotiations, particularly since violent acts and bloodshed have proved useless and do not yield benefits for the Palestinian people and their just cause. [end recording]

'Abd al-Fattah Dudin, mayor of Dura, talks to us about his view on the incidents which are taking place in Tripoli and north Lebanon:

[Begin recording] ['Abd al-Fatah Dudin] My view is that one day the dissident factions in the Palestinian organizations will wipe each other out and no faction will exist in the end. As long as there are numerous organizations there will also be numerous objectives. Each organization has a certain objective and serves a certain Arab party which finances it.

[Qaddur] Mr 'Abd al-Fattah, what is the future solution?

['Abd al-Fattah] The future solution is in God's hands, but I believe that the path of peace is the best solution to these conflicts between the organizations or between the Arab countries and Israel, or between us, the citizens of the West Bank. It is the constructive dialogue between us and the Israeli people. Otherwise, there will be no solution either now or in the future. [end recording]

October Consumer Price Index Highest Ever

TA151534 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Last month the consumer price index rose by 21.10 percent. The rise in the index over the first 10 months of this year already totals 126.1 percent. Last month food prices rose by 24.7 percent; the price of clothing and footwear rose by almost 50 percent; the price of vegetables and fruit rose by 19.5 percent. Housing costs rose by 20 percent. The price index for materials used in housing construction rose by 17.4 percent. This index rise is the highest in the history of Israel and is 50 percent higher than the previous record, 13.3, recorded 6 months ago.

Finance Ministry Reaction

TA151733 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The Finance Ministry has said that the large price rise last month was expected following the big devaluation and the cut in subsidies. It is now essential to deal with the causes of inflation, to cut imports, to lower public and private consumption, and to sharply curb the money

4,000 Housing Units To Be Built in Territories

TA151326 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Nov 83 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Moti Basoq]

[Excerpts] As had been planned, 4,000 new housing units will be built this coming year in the territories. This was promised by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi, and Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad to a delegation of prominent Tehiya members.

Shamir and Kohen-Orgad promised the Tehiya delegation that there would be no cuts in the settlement budget. All the settlements that had been planned for this year will indeed be established. All the plans for the strengthening of existing settlements will also be implemented.

Chancellor Kohl To Visit 'in About 2 Months'

TA151729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Chancellor Kohl is to pay an official visit to Israel in about 2 months. This has been learned by our correspondent in Bonn.

LIBYA

Ghanaian Airliner Refused Landing Permission

LD151551 Tripoli JANA in English 1434 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, Safar 10, Nov 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Egyptian state news agency said that a Ghanaian airliner had made an emergency landing in Cairo for refuelling after she was refused a landing permission by Libyan authorities. JANA correspondent has learnt that the Ghanaian liner was indeed refused landing permission in Libyan airport after the people in charge had confirmation that the airliner was en route from occupied Palestine to Accra. The airliner tried to land in Beirut but was not able to because of the security situation there. The decision was in line with Libya's national stand and her commitment to the regulations of the Arab Bureau for boycotting Israel.

MOROCCO

Further on Visit of Egyptian Foreign Minister

Hassan Sends Mubarak Message

NC150940 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] King Hassan II of Morocco has sent a message to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in reply to the message which Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, conveyed to him. King Hassan II has affirmed during his meeting with Kamal Hasan 'Ali that Egypt's return to the Arab fold is an important matter in respect to the Arab world. He said that the Arab arena should not be left to Arab parties hindering a peaceful solution. Moroccan Foreign Minister Boucetta last night hosted a dinner for Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the delegation accompanying him which was attended by several Moroccan officials and ministers, and members of the mission looking after Egyptian interests in Rabat. Meanwhile, the head of the section looking after the Egyptian interests in Morocco has said that contacts will be held with the Moroccan Government in light of the agreement reached during the current visit of Kamal Hasan 'Ali to Morocco for promoting the relations between the two countries and exchanging delegations in various fields. Kamal Hasan 'Ali is due to leave Rabat tonight for Rome where he will meet with the Italian foreign minister tomorrow.

'Ali Talks With Boucetta

NC151642 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held talks this morning with Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta. 'Ali said that Morocco intends to bolster cultural, information, and economic relations with Egypt, adding that these topics will be discussed in detail with the Moroccan foreign minister during his visit to Egypt within the next few weeks. 'Ali also made a statement to Moroccan radio, saying that Egyptian-Arab relations are continually reaching new heights. Replying to a question on Egypt's stand on the incidents involving the PLO, 'Ali said Egypt called for maintaining the unity of the PLO; the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat, who is a symbol of the PLO's international acceptance; and the freedom of the PLO's decisionmaking. 'Ali added that there are continuing contacts between Egypt and the PLO and between Egypt and Arab countries to safeguard the PLO's legitimacy. Concluding his statement, 'Ali said that he has sent a report to President Husni Mubarak about his meeting with King Hassan II and the topics discussed during this meeting.

'Ali Holds Press Conference

LD152304 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The Egyptian deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali held a meeting with the national press in Rabat today. Answering a question on Egypt's return to the Arab fold, the Egyptian minister said:

[Begin recording] Concerning the first question, about the restitution of Arab solidarity, we know that since the suspension of (?Egypt's membership) of the Arab League, and both before and after this, it has not abandoned its Arab commitments, nor has it abandoned a single Arab cause. This has been the case with us regarding the Palestinian issue and during the talks on autonomy. Throughout these negotiations, which lasted for more than 2 years, it had no other aim but what the Palestinians would like for themselves.

As regards the Lebanon issue, Egypt was one of the first Arab countries to move toward Israel and toward the United States as regards the Lebanon issue and the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. Also, by making contacts with the legitimate Lebanese authorities and by its credibility among the ordinary Lebanese. Egypt has always called for the necessity of continuing the dialogue and achieving its objectives of Lebanese national territory.

Thus Egypt's conviction in its move toward peace was that there had to be a comprehensive, lasting, and just peace which would take into account the Palestinian people's national rights and remove the obstacles which hinder the development of the Arab region in the Arab East [as heard] and which [word indistinct] a solution in it, release the Arab world's potential for development, progress, and prosperity of these peoples. On the basis of this conviction concerning the path of peace, which was born after the Fes summit and was consolidated after the Fes summit and its resolutions, and on the basis of Egypt's conviction that it is performing the role sought from it by Arabs and Muslims, Egypt viewed Arab relations as solid whatever the obstacles. Therefore, Egypt never (?refrained) from any call of friendship from any Arab country and did not (?refrain) from carrying out its responsibilities regarding Arab issues, and it did not shut its door to the restitution of Arab solidarity.

If this is symbolized in the return of ambassadors, the quality and content of the relations undoubtedly represent the first priority for Egypt. Coordination between Egypt and the Arab world on Arab issues must, undoubtedly, be the first test, and it is the objective. Here I say welcome to the return of Arab solidarity

and let it be based on certainty [words indistinct]. That is regarding the first question. As for the second question about the PLO; it is regrettable for an Arab who wants a solution to the Palestinian problem that the organization should be subjected not only to dispersal and splintering, but to human sacrifice too. We know that the organization has enough units, and the existence of some of these units is the condition for the freedom of Palestinian decisionmaking. Adding more fragmentation, or imposition by an Arab country on its decisions and directions, would cause the organization to lose its legitimacy and the legitimacy to speak on behalf of Palestinian people everywhere. What is taking place in Tripoli now absolutely does not serve the PLO or its legitimacy. On the contrary, it has a direct effect on the Palestinian cause. There is no better indication of this than the losses suffered by the cause day after day at international conferences — and as an example of this I can cite the Geneva conference on the Palestinian issue, and how the European interest has declined. The European countries participated as observers only whereas Europe once adopted resolutions in Venice and Luxembourg.

Regarding the (?timing), any degeneration in the organization, [words indistinct] represent an obstacle to a solution to the problem. This is at a time when Israel is building settlements day after day on the West Bank and the Gaza strip. Therefore, the loss of more time is not in the interest of the Palestinian cause. Of course, what we expect in the light of 'Arafat's commitment to stay with the Palestinian combatants in Tripoli is that he will either be liquidated physically, or captured, or forcibly [word indistinct], and all these lead only to one conclusion: namely that the organization will lose its legitimacy. [end recording]

Replying to a question on the steps to consolidate relations between Morocco and Egypt, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said:

[Begin recording] The resumption of diplomatic relations is within the context of the answer that I have given and does not go beyond that context, but what is important is the contents of relationship or [word indistinct] helped by one of the expressions I heard today from a Morroccan brother, a Moroccan official, to say that they are ties and not a relationship. The ties exist and the ties are stronger. If we use the expression of relationship as a bilateral political meaning, I say that this visit will be followed by other visits by officials of the two countries to give impetus to the aspects of cooperation between the two countries in all fields. In the coming weeks M'hamed Boucetta will pay a visit to Cairo when we shall discuss bilateral issues in greater detail. [end recording]

With regard to a question about whether the return of Egypt to the Arab arena in the field of the strategic balance represents a return to a military solution or a political solution or to Arab solidarity, the Egyptian foreign minister replied:

[Begin recording] Let us first look at things in retrospect. War was never at any time an aim in itself. War is a means of conflict by military means. We resort to it when it becomes necessary to resort to a military solution. If some of the aims of this solution are achieved, we then always move to a military solution, otherwise the military conflicts and military solutions would forever remain a permament criterion between the disputing parties. Egypt's aim in the battle of 1973, when the political solution had been difficult ever since the 1967 Rogers initiative up to Egypt's proposals of before 1973 to resort to a peaceful solution both in international and the UN organizations and through its contacts with the United States, when it became clear that the political solution, when Egypt possessed a proportionate military strength, when it became clear that there was no political solution, Egypt resorted to the military solution. [sentence as heard] After the military solution, and from the premise of strength, it moved to the political solution.

After this, and after reaching the framework of peace in the Middle East, and after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, the political line — represented in the peace march — remained the [word indistinct] strategy. When Egypt entered with its military weight, it did not aim at the continuation of the military conflict [word indistinct] in view of the cost of the four wars Egypt had shouldered in the martyrdom and the wounding of 100,000 people and in the cost of $100 billion over 30 years; the political choice was the basis and the strategy, and that through negotiations it was possible to [word indistinct] the fact that one of the Arab countries believes there should be a military strategy then this is up to that country and its assessment. We are not states that export arms but states that import them.

During the war of October 1973 we saw the extent of the military supply to Egypt. Here we must place everything in the balance and everything in evaluation when we decide on our policy. Therefore the return of Egypt to military solidarity is not for the sake of finding military balance but for the sake of finding political balance. Politics, too, has its own balances. The balances of politics at this stage are under great consideration. [end recording]

'Ali Makes Statement, Departs

LD152302 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Rabat this evening after a friendly working visit, during which he was received by His Majesty King Hassan II and delivered a personal message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. He expressed his satisfaction with the visit, which will facilitate the deepening of the links of fraternity and friendship between the two peoples. These sentiments were contained in statements made by Kamal Hasan 'Ali on his departure from Muhammad V Airport and during the lunch he gave at Egypt House in Rabat in honor of the members of the government and the diplomatic corps, and also when answering questions put to him by reporters after the lunch.

Before the lunch His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed paid a courtesy visit to Kamal Hasan 'Ali at the head of the Egyptian delegation's residence. Kamal Hasan 'Ali welcomed the crown prince and expressed his pride and appreciation of this visit to Egypt House. The crown prince was accompanied by his majesty's advisers Ahmed (Binsudah) and Mohamed (Awwad). During the lunch General Kamal Hasan 'Ali and M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, spoke expressing the two sister countries' desire to consolidate cooperation and coordination between them with the objective of

serving the causes of Islam and Arabism. First the Egyptian foreign minister:

[Begin 'Ali recording] Mr M'hamed Boucetta, foreign minister, brother ministers, Your Excellencies, the ambassadors, our dear guests. At the end of my short visit to sister Morocco I can only express my thanks and gratitude to his majesty and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed, for his honoring Egypt House in Morocco today, because the meeting held yesterday and this visit today are an embodiment of the depth of the ties between the two sister countries — Egypt and Morocco — the two pioneering countries in their Arabism and Islamicism.

My experiences today and yesterday can undoubtedly only increase the zeal in the two countries to achieve the desired support, (?pride), and strength in the deeply-rooted relations between the two countries, in support of our Arab and Islamic causes. The meetings between His Majesty King Hassan and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak may take all the credit for our moving from one stage to another, from one stage of fraternity to a deeper stage. I am confident that your forthcoming visit, Mr Minister, will without doubt be a backing for the development of this relationship, and that in the coming days and years we will witness greater support for our Arab, Islamic, and African causes. Thank you all for attending this modest celebration. We hope that we will always meet on what is good. Blessed be the hands that build for the sake of Arab glory and the glory of Islam. Thank you. [applause] [end recording]

M'hamed Boucetta then spoke:

[Begin recording] Dear generous brother, thank you for receiving us at Egypt House in Morocco. Thank you for your good words about Morocco, particularly those concerning His Majesty King Hassan II and his royal highness the crown prince, and also for the courteous expressions with which you describe the sentiments that all Moroccan people share; they are undoubtedly the same sentiments shared by all Egyptian people for each other.

There is no doubt that your meeting yesterday with his majesty the king, [word indistinct] that meeting which took place [word indistinct] between his majesty and His Excellency President Husni Mubarak constitute a new noble step toward the beginning of a new era [words indistinct] the deepening of the relations that have always linked Morocco and Egypt, the people of Morocco and the people of Egypt, in order to carry out their duty in relations to their brothers in the (?Arab) world, in relation to Arab and to African solidarity and in relation to peace, (?prosperity), and fraternity in the whole world. This is the (?role) that both countries have always played in complete coordination, with enthusiasm and with the deep knowledge [words indistinct]. I hope that this visit will also be a step in relation to joint Arab action for the defense of the rights of the Arabs, and the right of the Palestinian people in particular, and to confront all the dangers to which the Arabs are exposed. There is no doubt that such united action and solidarity will accomplish much good. I thank you for your hospitality and in the name of the brothers present here and in my name I thank you once again for your speech, reception, and welcome; once again we say this in Egypt, in Egypt House in Morocco. [applause] [end recording]

ETHIOPIA

Voice of Broad Masses Reports TPLF Operations

EA131759 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 13 Nov 83

[Text] The heroic fighters of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] made continuous attacks on Dergue soldiers on 27 October between Mile and Logia on the Assab-Addis Ababa road and between Mile and Bati on the Assab-Dase road. Nine trucks and trailers, two Zil trucks and trailers, two [word indistinct] trucks and trailers, two buses, two taxis, factory spare parts, other property, and gasoline were destroyed by fire in the two attacks. Two trucks of grain and other useful items were confiscated by the TPLF. One Dergue soldiers was killed and two others were captured. On the same day TPLF fighters attacked the town of Mersa situated between Hayek and (Woldia) and took control of it. During the fighting 240 assorted weapons and other useful enemy equipment were captured. Over 250 assorted weapons, bombs, bullets, and 2 cars were destroyed by fire. In an ambush between (Woldia) and Cobbo, 20 Dergue soldiers were killed, 35 were wounded, and 1 was captured. On 23 October the TPLF attacked the Dergue's 16th Division, 119th Brigade, 2d Battalion, moving from Koha to (Darga Ayen) toward Enda Micael and killed 16 Dergue soldiers, captured 25 of them, and forced the rest to retreat.

SOMALIA

Mogadishu: WSLF Kills 10 Cubans, 20 Ethiopians

EA101855 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] A report we received today from the Western Somali Liberation Front, WSLF, officer here in Mogadishu states that the fighters of the WSLF have killed some soldiers of the forces backing the black colonialist Abyssinia. The WSLF fighters stated that they have killed 10 Cuban and 20 Abyssinian soldiers in a surprise attack on 5 November on the bases of the Abyssinians and their backers at Lido town, which is just 35 km southwest of Harar city. In the attack, the enemy soldiers also suffered several soldiers wounded, and one vehicle was destroyed.

Further on 5 Nov Attack

EA121539 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 12 Nov 83

[Text] The intrepid fighters of the Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] launched a suprise attack on 5 November against the black colonialist Abyssinians stationed at (Midat), [words indistinct] southwest of Harar. The gallant WSLF fighters killed 35 of Mengistu's militiamen and wounded many others. The WSLF fighters destroyed three of the black colonialist Abyssinian forces' vehicles and everything they carried. Reports add that in the past few weeks the WSLF fighters have increased their activities against the black colonialist Abyssinian forces illegally occupying their territory. The gallant WSLF fighters have vowed to crush the troops of the murderous Addis regime who are holding Western Somali territory by force. The report adds that the WSLF fighters returned to their base safely after their successful mission.

Radio Halgan: DFSS Debates New Military Force

EA160635 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somalia to Somalia 1800 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The second seminar of the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] Central Committee continues its deliberations with in-depth discussions on many issues embracing the armed and political struggle of the front against the dictatorial regime of Siad Barre. Other matters being examined are the improvement of the general administration and the reorganization of a new military force of the DFSS in accordance with the important decisions made at the first DFSS seminar. Our Radio Halgan correspondent at the second DFSS session says that resolutions significant for the future of the Somali people will be adopted at the end of the session.

Radio Halgan: DFSS Attacks Convoy; 7 Killed

EA101928 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] Reports reaching us from the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces say that some of the division's fighters launched a surprise attack on a convoy of military vehicles from the loyalist troops of the Barre dictatorial regime near the village of (Bandiradley) in Mudugh region. The reports confirm that the loyalist troops of Barre lost one vehicle destroyed, seven soldiers killed, and two others wounded. The intrepid fighters of the DFSS returned safely to their base.

Curfews Reported in Central, Northern Regions

EA102023 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] A report from our Radio Halgan correspondent in Hiran region says that the despised regime of General Siad Barre has imposed a night curfew on the Hiran, Ghel Gudut, Mudugh, and Nogal regions of the country. The report adds that from 2200 no one is allowed to move about at all. The repressive organs of the rejected regime will arrest anyone found outside after 2200, who will face either imprisonment or a fine of 200 shillings. The Radio Halgan correspondent in Hiran region says that the rejected regime of Gen Siad Barre made this decision to impose the curfew after failing to maintain security in those regions. The correspondent adds that the general public in those regions lives in great terror and fear.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Meets Algeria Envoy; Commission Talks End

EA151924 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Dar es Salaam — Tanzania and Algeria have pledged to promote their cooperation. In a joint statement issued in Dar es Salaam today following 3 days of talks by the joint commission of the two countries, the two sides urged their respective governments to strengthen and implement the joint program on cooperation. Under the program Algeria will give Tanzania technical assistance including training, guidance, and industrial information with regard to various projects in the country. The program also stresses [words indistinct]. In addition, under the program Algeria has agreed to continue buying coffee, cotton, cocoa, tea, and leather from Tanzania. The statement also says that cooperation between the two countries is important in promoting cooperation among developing countries, which, it says, will enable those countries to solve international economic problems. The Algerian delegation is expected to return home tomorrow morning.

Meanwhile, President Nyerere has received a message from President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria. The message was conveyed to Mwalimu by the Algerian envoy extraordinary, Ndugu Jalloud Hafid,. After conveying the message, the envoy held lengthy discussions with Mwalimu concerning African and international issues, relations between developing countries, and theliberation of southern Africa. Mwalimu and the visitor also discussed trade relations between Tanzania and Algeria.

UGANDA

President Obote Departs for Tanzanian Summit

EA151824 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] We have just received a report that President Obote has left for Arusha, Tanzania where he will attend a summit meeting to discuss assets and liabilities of the defunct East African Community. The president was seen off at Entebbe International Airport by Vice President Paulo Muwanga, Prime Minister Otema Alimadi, ministers, and senior government and security officers. The president's delegation includes the minister of regional cooperation, Mr Sam Tewungwa; of justice, Mr Stephen Ariko; of rehabilitation, Mr Patrick Masette-Kuuya; and of state for defense, Mr Peter Otai. Before leaving for Arusha, Dr Obote received separately the British high commissioner to Uganda, Mr Colin McLean; The West German ambassador, Mr Guenther Held; and the American ambassador, Mr Allan Clayton Davis, with whom he discussed matters of bilateral interest.

CHAD

Government Responds to Goukouni Statement

AB151600 Paris AFP in French 1530 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, 15 November (AFP) — The resignation or nonresignation of Goukouni Oueddei is only a false problem since the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT] does not exist, it was affirmed on Tuesday at the Chadian Embassy in Paris. According to Radio Bardai monitored on Monday night in Lome, Mr Goukouni recently affirmed that the GUNT has decided to reconcile with Hissein Habre despite the presence of French troops on the Chadian national soil.

He added that if he was asked to resign to ensure the return of peace to Chad he would be prepared to do so provided the Chadians agree. Questioned about this matter on Tuesday, the Chadian Embassy stated that this declaration constituted a Libyan maneuver aimed at making people believe that there is a change of policy and to obtain the departure of President Hissein Habre in exchange for something that is only fiction. As President Hissein Habre has often declared, added the embassy, the Chadian Government is ready to promote a reconciliation between all Chadians including Goukouni Oueddei, and it has been working for this for many months now.

Bardai on Resignation Statement

AB152025 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Here now is a point of clarification from Radio Bardai: In its last news bulletin, Radio France International made the following statement: Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT] is ready to resign from his post in order to facilitate the reconciliation of all the (?factions).

We are quite surprised that a radio of some international reputation should deform the use of terms used by Radio Bardai. We deem it our duty to clarify things so that our colleagues can take good note of it. Considering his own position as head of the GUNT, the comrade head of state, Goukouni Oueddei, stressed that even if he were asked to resign for peace to return to Chad, he was ready to comply provided the Chadian people agree to that. I wish with all my heart, Comrade President Goukouni said, that peace returns to Chad. [Words indistinct] These were the words of the comrade head of state.

In its systematic practice of disinformation and the reactionary [words indistinct] is in the other sense, at a time when Paris, in accordance with a certain tradition, tries to sway the African public opinion through its radio broadcasts [words indistinct]. Will it not be appropriate to ask them to include in the agenda of the conference of the new world information order a representative from Chad who will be ready to give his viewpoint on the subject and also show that [words indistinct] against the people of Chad and the suppression of the African conscience?

Bardai Comments on FAN 'Maneuver' With Soldiers

AB131250 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 11 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The highlight of the current news in our country over the weekend [as heard] was the sordid propaganda of Radio France Internationale [RFI] about a scenario well known to the Chadian people. After remaining (?completely) silent over the past few weeks on the situation in Chad, RFI has just ended the blackout by announcing that following a mission of mobilization undertaken in the south of the country by an Ndjamena team, 15 Chadian officers hostile to gang leader Hissein Habre have returned to Ndjamena. The wide coverage given by RFI to the information is not accidental. This is a new trumped-up scenario by international imperialism with a view to restoring the fortunes of its lackeys tarnished by the deterioration of the military and political situation in the south of the country. Meanwhile, it is also to check such disinformation that UNESCO is meeting on the new world information order. Just at a time when the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] is trying to restore peace through national reconciliation under the auspices of the pan-African organization, certain Western media are taking advantage of our people by indulging in a systematic campaign of disinformation, intoxication, and lies [words indistinct]. These media have become true (?instruments) of propaganda against progressive forces on (?our) continent. National and international opinion (?are aware) that the National Liberation Army [ANL] will victoriously resist all operations launched here and there by the revengeful FAN groups and the foreign occupation forces. Worried by dangerous developments in the south and in the center of the country, the leader of the antinational forces has just made desperate appeals to Zairian (?troops). The recent visit to Ndjamena by (?17) Zairian, U.S. Israeli, and South African officers came as a response to the worries of the manslaughterer and executioner of the Chadian people. To improve the worsening situation of the south of the country, the boss of the Ndjamena lackeys resorted to his divisionist policy by sending to the southern regions, not yet affected by the waves of crimes, a delegation of old politicians from those regions well known for their betrayal. [Passage indistinct] The announcement of the arrival of the 15 officers is evidently and awkwardly designed to offset the defection of three Chadian pilots with a DC-4 aircraft. This report is rather funny if one thinks of the misadventure of certain dissident officers and political maneuvers. In this connection, we can recall that some months ago the management of the Chadian cotton company in Moundou, Cottonchad, made an unsuccessful attempt to initiate negotiations between the leaders of ANL commando units and the Ndjamena clique. The reaction of the commando units came promptly. Ndjamena can (?only negotiate with) the GUNT. As for the devil's advocate, [words indistinct] can he now talk frankly of political (?negotiations) without attracting the thunders of the sinister chairman of the FAN Command Council? What can one say about the dissident officers from the south who were merely integrated in the ranks of the national annihilation forces with a big demagogical title even though the FAN Command Council was maintained [words indistinct]? Now they have reported the arrival of 15 officers in Ndjamena. Well, who are these men

whose identities they do not want to reveal? In reality, this a political and military maneuver, because the officers leading the ANL commando units in their resistance campaign in the south and the center of the country cannot enter into negotiations with the criminal forces, who have been looting and killing villagers and setting their houses on fire, without conferring with the GUNT. According to the latest report, the OAU ad hoc commission on Chad has allegedly invited the signatories to the Lagos accords to attend a meeting to be held very soon. This has been announced by some African radios monitored in Bardai.

Bardai: Habre Repression Forces Citizens Into Exile

AB101158 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The terrorist political order which the fascist clique in Ndjamena intends to establish in Chad and to which has been added the insufficient rainfall experienced this year has depopulated our towns and villages. The barbarous acts of repression being committed daily by the criminal (?FAN) organizations in the towns and villages have provoked the massive exodus of our people to neighboring countries. According to our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena, the extortion, torture, arbitrary arrests, collective massacres of farmers, and the destruction of villages by setting them on fire in the southern part of the country have compelled many people in this area to abandon their farms and go into exile in the neighboring Central African Republic. In the east, some ethnic groups who have become subjects of permanent persecution and compulsory military enrollment have been forced to go into exile. All able-bodied and productive persons capable of being enrolled into the puppet army by force have been forced to escape to Sudan, which is itself a victim of civil war and 400,000 of whose citizens have taken refuge in Ethiopia. People have been dying of hunger every day because of this catastrophic situation. The food supplied by the humanitarian organizations is diverted by the vampire of the Chadian people and is used as a means of blackmail and pressure. Half of the food is diverted by the state and sold on the market while the remaining half is distributed only to the devoted militants, the instruments of state repression. In short, this aid constitutes poisoned bait and support for the policy of the (?FAN).

Chadians Arrested in Saudi Arabia

AB120730 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 11 Nov 83

[Text] The latest report just reaching us on the fate of certain Chadians living in Saudi Arabia are both bewildering and alarming. As a matter of fact, in the cities of Jidda and Medina, Saudi authorities have arrested more than 150 Chadians, partisans, and sympathizers of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT]. They include Moussa Arouna Aradi, Cherif Mahamaze, and Azoum Moussa, alias Miya. Evidently, the dramatic situation of these Chadians facing the threat of extradition to Ndjamena must not be looked on with indifference by international organizations, both political and humanitarian, such as the Arab League, the OAU, and the international human rights league [as heard], especially Amnesty International. The steps taken by Saudi authorities are especially surprising because the affected Chadian nationals had fled the FAN hell to seek refuge in the holy land, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In fact, it must be said that every day, the Ndjamena bloody group, allied to Zionism and international imperialism, is assaulting Chadian citizens, including many marabouts whose only crime is to have refused to serve the pro-Western rule.

ZAIRE

AZAP Discusses Need for Cooperation With Angola

AB110840 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0915 GMT 10 Nov 83

[AZAP commentary: "The Kinshasa-Luanda Connection"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 10 Nov (AZAP) — The Zairian-Angolan joint commission began its deliberations in Luanda to discuss issues of common interest in view of the process initiated in 1976 thanks to the clairvoyance and the realism of our leaders in strengthening and improving the secular friendship between our two peoples. Problems of security and development, which to the Zairians and Angolans are indispensable and constitute their fundamental objective, will undoubtedly be at the center of the discussions at the present session which takes place a few days before the eighth independence anniversary of our Portuguese-speaking neighbor. Peace along the common border, which is more than 2,000 km long, and internal stability and security in each of our states are considered to be the guarantors of a harmonious development and a mutually advantageous cooperation. The security of our states, therefore, constitutes the prerequisite for their economic recovery, which has for a long time been relegated to second place because of external aggression. Preoccupied by this danger, our countries have used all their energy for survival before tackling the tasks of development.

The free exchange of people at the common border is such that the rate of trade calls for a suitable organization by the authorities of the two countries to be created. That is why there is no doubt that the trade agreement which was signed between the two countries a few years ago and which has not yet been fully implemented will occupy an important place in the deliberations. There are many possibilities for Angola and Zaire to develop and diversify their cooperation, particularly in the sector of air, rail, and sea transportation. However, none of these can be achieved without peace, stability, and security. That is the price that Zairians and Angolans attach to their relations, which we must acknowledge, after a period of misunderstanding, is resolutely directed toward an era of fraternity. The Luanda deliberations should, therefore, confirm the option taken by the two peoples to strengthen their cooperation in all fields in their interests. Zaire and Angola understand perfectly well that whatever the scope of their economic potential and political will there can be no development if peace, internal stability, and national security are not guaranteed. Therefore, understanding between Kinshasa and Luanda must consequently bring about in southern and central Africa an atmosphere that is more conducive to supporting and pursuing the struggle engaged in by our oppressed brothers of Namibia against the white minority South African regime in the south of the continent.

BENIN

Cuban Ambassador Interviewed on Grenadan Invasion

AB151710 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] President Kerekou, head of state, had long talks this morning with Carlos (Captillo), ambassador of Cuba. Answering Sylvestre Zomahou's questions, the Cuban diplomat pointed out that his talk with our great comrade in arms centered on the invasion of the independent island of Grenada and the situation prevailing in Central America.

[Begin recording] [(Captillo)] in Spanish with simultaneous translation into French] We were invited by President Kerekou who wished to know our opinion on what occurred in Grenada and the current situation in Central America. We had long talks with President Kerekou on the sad events of Grenada and on the death of Maurice Bishop, the unforgettable prime minister of the island and on the disgraceful American intervention against that independent island in violation of human rights, despite the opposition of most of the countries of the world. Cuba is linked to Grenada by strong ties of cooperation and it was within this framework that 784 Cuban technical assistants were working there. Most of them were workers in charge of constructing an airport for that heroic island. Suddenly, the island was invaded by the American troops while the workers were peacefully discharging their duties. They received orders from our government and party not to instigate any action against the invading troops but only to fight back if they were attacked. In fact, this is exactly what happened. The American troops occupied the working places of our construction workers and technical assistants who defended themselves heroically in spite of their lack of equipment.

The American troops used all kinds of arms — from the air, artillery — against which the Cubans could not defend themselves. They possessed only a few personal weapons. The resistance from these Cuban workers was heroic because they did not surrender. They fought until their ammunition was depleted. Twenty-four of my compatriots died heroically on the battlefield, more than 50 were wounded, and the remaining were taken prisoners.

After a number of negotiations, in which the International Red Cross participated, the wounded and dead Cubans were sent to Cuba as well as the prisoners. Yesterday, our country declared a period of national mourning in honor of these Cuban heroes.

We also talked to the president about the present situation in Grenada, which is an invaded country and where the only important authority is the invasion force. In spite of the fact that a new government is said to have been formed there, in reality this government does not represent anyone. On the situation in Central America, we told the president of the great danger that threatens this region, particularly in Nicaragua. It is a country that is likely to be invaded any time. Thousands of troops from neighboring reactionary countries have surrounded Nicaragua, as well as Nicaragua counterrevolutionaries who are supported by American troops. The Nicaraguan heroic revolutionaries are ready to defend their fatherland with determination and courage. They are convinced that they have the militant solidarity of all countries including the People's Republic of Benin.

The situation in Central America is very dangerous. The people of Nicaragua do not rule out the fact that there could be an invasion of their country in the coming weeks with the direct support of the United States. They are convinced that the world will soon witness moments of tension in the development of events in Central America.

[Zomahou] What do you think is the actual reason for the invasion of the independent island of Grenada?

[(Captillo)] The underlying reason for the invasion is that the U.S. Government could not tolerate the existence of an independent government which was fighting for the benefit of its people and which intended to carry out major changes in this small country. Nine years after the deplorable events in Grenada, [words indistinct] of the American Government. Due to this, they gave the excuse that there was a power vacuum on the island. An American citizen recently began speculating that this island would become a Cuban military base. Is it not the United States that has hundreds of military bases all over the world and even wanted to plant one in Cuba? The main reason for this invasion is the political intolerance of this reactionary fascist government of the United States and its profound hatred for all governments in the world that fight for peace, independence, and sovereignty.

[Zomahou] Could you tell us about the prevailing situation in Grenada? How is the resistance to the invasion carried out?

[(Captillo)] From reports reaching us the resistance to the invasion has ended. The island was dominated by an important military force that took control of all political and public institutions of this country. We do not know if the fighting still continues. This is an invaded country. A country of less thatn 120,000 inhabitants was invaded by the world's greatest power. This is the situation in Grenada where a puppet government has been set up, a government responding to the interests of the United States.

[Zomahou] What was the reaction of the Cuban people toward this imperialist invasion?

[(Captillo)] The Cuban Government and people reacted to and opposed this criminal invasion. They followed this event [words indistinct] during which sons of Cuba fought to support a just cause and in defense of their workplaces. Once again, our people manifested their steadfast decision to fight under any circumstances. [end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings on Cooperation With Upper Volta

AB152215 Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings has called on Ghana's

neighboring countries not to regard the ever-growing ties of economic, cultural, and military cooperation between her and the Republic of Upper Volta as a move to exclude them. He said it should be seen by them as an invitation to participate in a more meaningful level of cooperation in the West African subregion.

Speaking to a delegation of the Upper Volta Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation at the Castle, Osu, today, Flight Lt Rawlings observed that Ghana and Upper Volta are together advancing the cause of African unity a step further in a spirit of true neighborliness. The joint commission for cooperation of the two countries, he said, had gone through periods of relative stagnation but now that the two nations are involved in similar revolutionary processes, there are no barriers between them and the way is open for a new level of cooperation and understanding, the PNDC chairman pointed out. Replying, the leader of the Upper Volta delegation, Arba Diallo, who is also his country's foreign minister, declared that the most important breakthrough the two countries have obtained so far is their present level of cooperation in various fields to the extent of marshalling their common defense forces in the event of any aggression by an external force.

Upper Voltan Defense Chief Pledges Support
AB150815 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The defense minister and chief of staff of the Upper Volta Armed Forces, Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, has declared that his country's Army will rally on the side of their Ghanaian counterparts any time Ghana is attacked. Maj Lingani, who is leading a 12-man delegation from the Upper Volta Armed Forces, made the declaration when he called on the force commander, Major General Arnold Quainoo, at the force headquarters at Flagstaff House in Accra. He said since both countries were engaged in revolutions which have made so many enemies for them, they will not sit down unconcerned to see their revolutions destroyed. Major Lingani said he is aware that peoples of the two countries have given their support to the ongoing revolutions, and since the Armed Forces have a special role to play in this, they must be the vanguard of the revolutions.

On the just ended exercise code named "Bold Union," Maj Lingani said this was to strengthen the growing relations between the two countries. The force commander had earlier briefed the delegation on the structure of the Ghana Armed Forces. They later visited some establishments of the Armed Forces, including the Armed Forces farm at Tema, to show them their contribution to the country's agricultural revolution.

Asamoah Opens Meeting With Upper Volta
AB150805 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The secretary of foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, said yesterday that the justification for the revolution in Ghana and Upper Volta is the necessity for solving the problems of poverty, ignorance, squalor, and disease that plague the two countries and other groups in the Third World.

Dr Asamoah made this point when he addressed the opening session of a 4-day meeting of the Ghana-Upper Volta permanent joint commission for cooperation in Accra. He said the two countries will give effective meaning to the process which will advance the political and economic cooperation between them. The meeting will consider proposals for the effective link of the two countries and peoples by land, sea, and air as well as telecommunications. Dr Asamoah called for the need for the Third World to avoid, as he put it, the temptation to scramble for crumbs that fall from the oppressor's table, to make them understand the historical and contemporary reasons for the backwardness of the Third World, and also to understand the dynamics of the African revolution.

The leader of the Upper Volta delegation, Arba Diallo, who is also the foreign minister, said they had come with the goodwill of his people to continue to strengthen the bonds of friendship that had always existed between the two countries. He said the two countries had a common goal to fight the imperialist and said assistance from any country with similar objectives was welcome. He described the recent military exercise between the two countries as the first step toward cooperation in all fields of economic, political, and military activity.

GUINEA

Soviet Delegation Arrives for PDG Congress
AB151430 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The Soviet delegation to the 12th Congress of the Guinean Democratic Party [PDG] is led by Rakhman Nabiyev, first secretary of the USSR Communist Party of Tadzhikistan. On his arrival in Conakry yesterday, the head of the Soviet delegation made the following statement at Conakry airport:

[Begin recording] [Nabiyev] Dear comrades, as we land on Guinean soil, we would first of all like to express to the friendly people and to the PDG the warmest congratulations and the sincerest wishes for success from the Soviet Communists and from the Central Committee of the Soviet Union. It is a great honor for us to represent our party at the 12th Congress of the PDG to which we are linked by strong ties of friendship. Please allow us to thank the National Bureau of the PDG and President Ahmed Sekou Toure, secretary general of PDG, for having invited our party to attend the 12th Congress of the PDG.

The Soviets know Comrade Ahmed Sekou Toure as an eminent statesman and politician from contemporary Africa who adds a notable contribution to the struggle against imperialism and to peace and social progress. It is under the leadership of your party that Guinea attained independence despite all imperialistic attempts to subject it to its hegemony and it undertook the construction of a new society, the objective of which is social progress. We believe that the invitation to our delegation to attend the 12th Congress of the PDG is another manifestation of your desire to strengthen the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation existing between the Soviet Communist Party and the PDG and between the USSR and the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.

NIGERIA

Brazilian President Arrives on Three-Day Visit

AB151245 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] President Joao Baptista Figueredo of Brazil has arrived in Lagos to begin a 3-day state visit to Nigeria. He was met at Murtala Mohamed Airport by President Shehu Shagari. Talks between the two presidents will begin this afternoon at State House. They are expected to review relations between their two countries and proposals to expand their areas of cooperation. President Figueredo will lay a wreath at the Tafawa Balewa Cenotaph tomorrow and later attend a state banquet in his honor after visiting the National Museum, Onikon. A joint communique will be issued at the end of the state visit on Thursday.

SENEGAL

Statement Issued on Senegambian Meeting

AB151125 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Official statement to the press by Information and Telecommunications Minister Djibo Ka on the Senegambian Ministerial Council meeting held in Dakar on 14 November 1983]

[Text] The ministerial council examined and adopted a Senegambian confederal draft budget. Drafted in accordance with the pertinent terms of the protocol governing the financial operations of the confederation, this draft budget expresses the willingness of the two countries of the confederation to realize progressively the objectives assigned to the confederation in the confederal agreement, which was conceived and established on the principles of rigor and austerity as defined by the president of the confederation in agreement with the vice president.

After the adoption of this confederal draft budget proposal by the ministerial council, the president of the confederation gave the confederation's finance minister the necessary instructions to present this budget to the Senegambian Confederal Assembly in accordance with the pertinent terms of the agreement and regulations of the confederation. In his address to the council, the president of the confederation specifically stressed the need to attach much importance to the negotiation as envisaged in the agreement on the establishment of the Senegambia confederation. To this effect, the president asked the competent ministers to take the necessary steps toward the holding of consultation meetings between the Gambian and Senegalese ministers concerned and with the participation of the confederal financial and economic affairs ministers.

Furthermore, the president of the confederation expressed his satisfaction with the positive evolution of the Senegambia confederation both at the level of its institutions as well as among the peoples of the two countries of the confederation. Finally, the president of the confederation expressed the feeling of the people and the government of the confederation concerning the situation in the Middle East. To this effect, on behalf of the vice president and the government of the confederation and on his own behalf, the president of the Senegambian confederation reaffirmed to the martyred Lebanese and Palestinian peoples the solidarity and support of the people of Senegambia and the confederal government.

As for the vice president, he strongly endorsed the president's views on the importance of the economic and monetary integration between the two states of the confederation. In this regard, the vice president expressed the hope that the negotiations would soon take off between the ministers concerned in order to define efficient procedures, in conformity with the directives of the president and vice president of the confederation.

Finally, the vice president expressed his satisfaction with the progress realized in developing the Senegambian confederation.

SIERRA LEONE

Stevens Receives Canary Islands President

AB151305 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The first president of the autonomy [as heard] Government of the Canary Islands, Geronimo Saavedra Azevedo, who was on a 4-day visit to this country, has called on President Siaka Stevens at State House. Mr Azevedo, who expressed pleasure to be in Sierra Leone, the first African country to be visited after the formation of the new government, pledged that the new political set-up in the Canary Islands would endeavor to further improve on the political and economic cooperation with African states. He spoke of the touristic potential of his country, disclosing that about 3 million tourists visited the Canary Islands recently.

Mr Azevedo believed that he could assist in promoting tourism in Sierra Leone and indicated the possibility of European tourists visiting this country through the Canary Islands. He presented souvenirs to President Stevens and extended an invitation to him to visit that country.

Dr Stevens expressed delight in welcoming Mr Azevedo to Sierra Leone and said he was satisfied with the new relationship existing between both governments. Dr Stevens, who said his government cherished such relationships, was of the opinion that we could learn a lot from the ceramic and other small industries there. The president expressed optimism that the already good relationship would further develop to the mutual benefit of both states.

Earlier, the foreign minister, Dr Abdulai Conteh, in presenting Mr Azevedo to Dr Stevens, spoke of the fruitful discussions he had held with him and was confident that we could benefit from the tourist industry.

At the ceremony were the minister of tourism and cultural affairs, Dr Idriss Fofanah; the parliamentary special assistant, Mrs Edith Kalone; the acting secretary to the president, J.P. Koromah; the permanent secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, A.B. Dixon; and the director of tourism, Alex Djumbuya.

TOGO

Commentary on Eyadema's Visit to United States

AB151415 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The official visit by General Gnassingbe Eyadema, the president and founder of the Rally of the Togolese People [RPT] and president of the republic, to the United States from 22 to 29 October, and the important address he made on Thursday during a reception in honor of Togolese women fall within the same context and both reflect the same preoccupation: peace.

First of all, the events that we have witnessed recently through the papers, pictures, eyewitness reports, and statements on the head of state's visit to Washington and New York are the biggest tribute that international opinion and the major world superpower, the United States, could pay to our president for his efforts in favor of peace, for his policies aimed at uniting peoples, and for his respect of freedom and human rights. This tribute to President Eyadema also marks the esteem held for our country and consequently for all Togolese people. Each person should be sincerely proud of this tribute to the Togolese people.

Everyday, working people, come rain or shine, work relentlessly so that party calls for a green revolution can become a reality and a success. These people must take this tribute to Togo as a message that is directly addressed to them. The youths of the RPT youth group and the student movements, the elders in the towns and in the interior, the women at home, in the markets, and in the fields, the professionals working in the private sector, the civil servants, and the teachers — all our nationals as well as the foreigners, regardless of what social class they belong to who everyday modestly contribute to the fascinating and solid edification of this nation — also merit the tribute paid to our nation through the one man who is its symobol: Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema.

However, these praises are compensation for the discipline and sacrifice that each citizen freely accepts and which made it possible that the Togo of the old days, which was not respected by the foreigner because of the chaos, anarchy, and the corruption which prevailed, has today become a country where order, peace, and security inspires confidence, political stability, and economic prosperity. It is often said that one appreciates the value of something through the sacrifices made to acquire it. At this very moment each Togolese is appreciating in his own way the long road we have traveled from the people's call for freedom on 13 January 1963 until the proclamation of the Third Republic in 1979, including the creation of the RPT and the climate which today has united all sons of the country without any distinction between the groups from the north, the south, the center, the east, and the west, without any consideration for social differences.

If it is true that one only appreciates the value of something through the sacrifices made to acquire it, it is also true that one only appreciates the value of something when one has lost it. Thus, these praises and these congratulations to the Togolese people and which appeal to foreigners are part of an everyday reality which has now become part of everyone's life because it has been permanently present for almost 17 years: We mean, peace. That is why last Thursday, when addressing the National Union of Togolese Women, President Eyadema, after having paid tribute to Togolese women for their role in the education of the nation, essentially stressed the need for peace, peace on which our life is based and without which the sacrifices of mothers, fathers, youth, and all the sacrifices by all citizens will have been to no avail in this work that we have undertaken. This peace we live in has become an everyday fact to such a point that it seems like a gift from God.

In fact, each morning the sun rises without anything disturbing the serenity of the horizon. Each day, all the citizens rise without asking themselves if the wars that are tearing apart countries on the continent may one day come to their country. They never ask themselves because they always believe that the peaceful atmosphere they live in is profound and has to be preserved at all costs. But how can we, each one in his own way, preserve this peace? Well, as you know, our world since the last world war has been divided into areas of influence, or if you want, spheres of interest. And each nation, according to its convictions and according to its political, economic, and strategic imperatives, joins the camp of its choice. Even if it does not, it is absorbed despite itself if it does not have the ability to resist pressure from the Eastern and Western blocs.

Today, the countries who do not want to belong to either one of the blocs call themselves members of the Nonaligned Movement. But the nonaligned are a movement, a school of thought, that has neither the advanced technology nor the military power to protect the member states who are subject to all kinds of pressure. In any case, these nonaligned countries, of which a large number are Third World countries, are themselves divided between the moderates and the progressives. This arbitrary division that has been introduced within our ranks to distinguish us from one another has no other objective but to retard the political and economic unity of our countries and consequently to slow down our development.

As for us, we have made our choice, which is neither on the left nor on the right. It is the RPT, the ideals of which enable all the sons of the country to unite and to pool together their intelligence, their knowledge, and their experience to edify a nation and to bring about the well-being of the people. Through this fundamental option, we have chosen to consolidate the old alliance established between our ancestors and the first travelers from abroad who first came in contact with us. Who are we talking about? We are talking about those who first showed us their friendship by sharing with us their knowledge and their know-how. Even if there were clashes, the confrontations ended in solidarity and interdependence from which we greatly benefit, even though this is not a just compensation for our common enterprises.

It is not a coincidence that the head of state, during the historical call he made at the Vittel conference, stressed the importance of the historical and traditional relations between the African Continent and our first friends. We the Togolese know what we have and we would not exchange it for anything in the world. Consequently, we have to mobilize behind the RPT and behind its

president and founder to safeguard what has been achieved through our option, the option which has led to our unity, our cohesion, and which today inspires admiration and trust. Each citizen is not being asked to become a member of a district, village, or town militia as has been the case in the past. Rather, everyone will have to be vigilant to unmask all ideas, attempts, and all acts aimed at disturbing the existing order, the existing peace, and this work we have been undertaking for almost 17 years for the well-being of the nation. Through our solidarity, participation, determination, work, discipline, and our awareness of the national duty, we will reinforce our prestige both on domestic and external levels. We will ensure the continuity of the present government and we will safeguard peace and stability. If through our solidarity we strengthen the nation, it will save us; but, if through our own fault we weaken it, then we will disappear with it.

Diplomats 'Involved in Destabilisation' Warned

AB151745 Paris AFP in English 1627 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Lome, Nov 15 (AFP) — Togo will not hesitate to expel diplomats involved in destabilisation activity on its territory, the daily *LA NOUVELLE MARCHE* said today as part of a continuing official campaign apparently aimed at Libya. In an editorial, the paper's director said the Togolese citizen of LaNouvelle Marche is proud of belonging to the form of society he has chosen. He is jealous of his independence and the stability he enjoys. That is why he will never tolerate diplomats, the representatives of certain countries, taking advantage of the weak character of some of our compatriots in order to use them to destabilise the regime. May these diplomats be aware that Togo, our country, will not hesitate for a single instant to declare persona non grata all these who indulge in such manoeuvers, for they will have only a short time to leave our territory.

The new warning came as part of a campaign begun more than a month ago against the subversive activities of a foreign power aimed at the regime of President Gnassingbe Eyadema, who came to power in 1967. This foreign power, which has not been mentioned explicitly in the campaign, is believed by diplomats here to mean Libya. Last Thursday General Eyadema warned against the dangers of red revolution, that which seeks to impose itself from outside by violence and blood. Yesterday the Information Ministry issued a warning against subversion.

UPPER VOLTA

15 Former Politicians Reportedly Arrested

AB152015 Paris AFP in French 1859 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 15 November (AFP) — It is learned from various sources in Upper Volta that 15 Upper Voltan personalities including former Presidents Maurice Yameogo (1958-1966) and Saye Zerbo (1981-1982) have been arrested by the Upper Voltan authorities. It will be recalled that these personalities were placed under house arrest by presidential decree on 11 October this year. (?Others also placed under arrest) are Gerard Kango Ouedraogo, prime minister and former speaker of the National Assembly; Joseph Ouedraogo, former speaker of the National Assembly and former mayor of Muagarugou; Moussa Kardougou, former minister of foreign affairs, and four other ministers: Voali Lankoande, education; Mahamoudou Ouedraogo, public works; Konate Douamba, education; and Paley Issa Welte, rural development; a former soldier, RMZ Congo, and two former professors, Joseph Ki-Zerbo, — who is on the run — and Henri Guissou.

Algeria To Open Embassy in Ouagadougou

AB152140 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] His Excellency (Brahim Mikah), the Algerian diplomat who accompanied the secretary general of the Algerian Foreign Ministry, came to take leave of the head of state after his mission to Upper Volta. Let us listen to what he said after the audience:

[Begin (Mikah) recording] Of course, on my part, I came to accompany the secretary general of our Foreign Ministry who came to deliver a message to the head of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution. I also took the opportunity to take leave of the head of state after the end of my mission. I must say that the short time I spent here afforded me the opportunity to appreciate the hospitality and generosity of the Upper Voltan people. As you know, I am resident in Niamey, but at the end of this month, an Algerian Embassy will be opened in Ouagadougou, and I am sure my replacement will carry out his duties with the same devotion for the prosperity of the two peoples of Upper Volta and Algeria. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Delivers Anniversary Speech 11 Nov

MB130622 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Nov 83

[Speech by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Caxito, Bengo Province on 11 November 1983 — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear comrades: As you all know, a tragic event occurred in the nation a few days ago. For reasons that are still unknown to us and which seem to be of a technical nature, 126 citizens lost their lives in an aviation accident in the city of Lubango. For this reason a number of messages of condolence have been received from abroad, and we shall express our thanks for them in due course. Although we are celebrating a festive date, a great sadness still overcomes our people, particularly the citizens who have lost their relatives. I, therefore, ask all present to observe a minute of silence in memory of the victims of this irreparable accident. [pause]

Comrade members of the Central Committee, government members, comrade provincial commissar of Bengo, Your Excellencies members of the diplomatic corps, internationalist comrades, comrades, and fellow countrymen, this is the first time that we have held the celebration of the 11 November anniversary in Caxito. The fight for economic liberation has been taking place in a difficult international situation and in a national context characterized by armed intervention by imperialist forces of the racist South African regime and the puppet gangs it uses. An undeclared war of destabilization is being waged against our young republic. The external enemy has increased all aspects of its activity and aggressiveness against our country in a true race against time. It attempts in vain to force the MPLA-Labor Party leadership to abandon its principled policy, which is based on building a society that satisfies the fundamental interests of the working masses and guarantees the control and protection of our natural wealth, the intransigent defense of our territorial integrity, the inseparable solidarity with the peoples who are oppressed and subjugated by imperialism, the exercise of a nonaligned policy, and cooperation with other peoples and states on the basis of equality and reciprocal advantage.

In the military field, the enemy has sought to carry out impressive actions in order to catch the attention of the world public and create the false idea that it is within a stone's throw of the capital. The destruction of Lumaum Dam, the attacks against the Alto Catumbela complex and the (Calulo) municipality, the train derailment at (Luau), the kidnapping of Czechoslovak and other expatriates, and so on come within the framework of those actions of banditry and terrorism. Those actions have always been accompanied by a campaign designed to intoxicate world public opinion in order to make it believe that our country is not the victim of external aggression by South Africa, but, rather, that it lives in an alleged atmosphere of cold war. The press, radio, and television of certain Western countries have spread false or distorted information about what is happening in Angola, and on many occasions they have presented their wishes as being the reality. They have reported alleged misunderstandings within the MPLA-Labor Party leadership and imagined demonstrations by elements of the people. They have gone as far as stating that in Angola power was hanging by a thin thread and was about to be taken over by the lackeys of the South Africans, who would be in Luanda by 11 November.

What they failed to say was that our people, from Cabinda to the Cunene River, have organized important marches and large rallies to protest against South African aggression and the acts of banditry carried out by their UNITA lackeys. They also failed to say that our people clearly understand that economic sabotage actions, the destruction of economic and social objectives, and armed aggression against our military units and civilians by the South African racists and their forces integrated in the UNITA puppet gangs do in fact delay the resolution of many economic and social problems of the working masses. However, this is the truth that must be understood in order to see why our people struggle and are prepared to face enormous sacrifices to defeat the aggressors and their lackeys. In fact, the racist South African regime, with the support of U.S. imperialism, had planned to annihilate our revolution. They combined their military, diplomatic, and propaganda actions in order to neutralize the hydroelectric power stations and the main fuel depots, to block communications routes by destroying bridges, to launch slanderous propaganda campaigns against the MPLA leaders, and to promote the UNITA gangs in the international arena.

This plan, which began with their treacherous attack against Cangamba, was met with a vigorous response by our Armed Forces and the people as a whole, particularly our younger people of military age. The general mobilization which has been taking place in the framework of the guideline: Let us organize the armed defense of the people to defend the revolution, clearly shows that the revolution will be defended and that imperialism, the South African racists, and reaction in general will not succeed. [applause] The great imperialist dream of changing political power in Angola will never come about. Angola will follow the people's democracy and the socialist path freely chosen by its people.

The aggressions by the South African regular Army have already caused material loss amounting to more than $10 billion and deprived more than 100,000 people of their property and homes in the southern part of Cunene and Cuando Cubango Provinces. The war effort has forced us to divert a great percentage of our state budget for the defense of the fatherland. This means that the aggressions by the South African Army force us to import less medicine and to build fewer schools, hospitals, houses, and so on. We are, therefore, not investing in sectors that could provide a relatively immediate improvement in the well-being of our people in order to enjoy the fruits of independence and of the sacrifices that we have experienced for centuries.

It is imperialism, the South African racists, and their lackeys who are not interested in seeing the MPLA-Labor Party fulfill its economic plan because they fear that it can be proven that equality, social justice, and well-being for all in the southern African countries can only be achieved in a socialist society, and, as such, that it is incompatible with racism, apartheid, and the exploitation of man by man. [applause] Despite all this and despite these difficulties, a great effort has been made for national reconstruction in order to give a minimum of living

conditions to our people. We have not only rebuilt almost everything that the enemy has destroyed, but we have also opened new enterprises every year within the framework of the emergency plans program and other programs. The main concern of our party at the moment is to create conditions to enable us to realize more rapidly and successfully the emergency plans for food production. Firm steps have been taken in the field of agriculture and fisheries and in the production of salt, sugar, and other goods. We also intend to improve the system of acquisition and distribution of medicine and to carry out the program against the great endemic diseases and for health care. This is a very brief account of what has been prepared and executed within the framework of emergency programs.

In the economic field, as in all sectors of our country's life, one of our most important difficulties is still our deficient control and organization capability. It is a situation that results from the inexperience of the cadres and mainly from the lack of national experts to execute and control the major tasks. We have resorted to foreign experts on contract to overcome many difficulties. However, foreign expert cooperation does not always adjust itself to our reality and needs, and it has proven to be increasingly expensive for the state budget. The party and the People's Assembly have outlined specific guidelines on the need to control the effectiveness, productivity, and costs of expatriates, and it is imperative that this be done. Lately we have been witnessing a frightening increase in contracts for technical assistance between Angolan and foreign enterprises, particularly from Western countries of Europe, with Portugal ranking first. Through these contracts, exaggerated sums of money have been remitted at a time when Western Europe is faced with a serious unemployment problem that affects experts and skilled workers. This situation must deserve special attention by the government organs concerned in order to study the adjustments needed to bring greater benefits to our country. In this context the word benefit must be understood in the wide sense as meaning economic, financial, and also ideological benefits.

We must exercise vigilance in order not to allow cooperation links with enterprises or entities that can take advantage of the financial results of that cooperation to politically promote or arm the enemies of our people. The diversification of economic cooperation must be conveniently (?outlined) and directed for our strategic objectives. In this field the Secretariat of State for Cooperation and the Ministry of Planning play the key role. Without abandoning cooperation with Western countries for objective reasons, we must look after the strengthening and broadening of economic relations with countries that share our ideological stand. [applause] Even here, naturally, we must look after our interests in a proper manner so that the inexpensive and safe cooperation that these countries offer us does in fact serve the building of the material and technical bases for the new society.

Dear comrades and fellow countrymen, as you know, we maintain exemplary cooperation with Cuba in the various fields of the civilian and military life. Despite all the campaigns, pressures, and blackmail by our enemies, we continue to count on the internationalists from friendly countries, particularly the Cuban comrades, who, together with their Angolan brothers, have carried out the great tasks of defense and and reconstruction with coherence, a spirit of sacrifice, and revolutionary dedication. [applause] In our common struggle against the enemy, we have cemented our friendship and militant solidarity with blood while sharing difficulties, sadness over our mistakes, and happiness from our victories. Becoming desperate in the face of this firm and unselfish aid, imperialism has tried one maneuver after another to bring about their withdrawal from the People's Republic of Angola. However, it has not been successful, for, contrary to what was expected, our just and principled common stand on this issue has received increased support from all governments.

The deliberate action of South Africa and the United States in delaying the application of UN Resolution 435 on the independence of Namibia on the pretext of the Cuban presence in Angola has deserved the most vigorous condemnation by the international community. Recently the UN Security Council rejected the absurd demand by South Africa and the United States to link the decolonization of Namibia to the presence of the Cuban internationalist forces in Angola. This proved the growing international isolation of the racists and their supporters. Concerned about this isolation, they continue to try to deceive public opinion with new political maneuvers. They intend to give Namibia the status of a South African protectorate because they think that the Namibian people have not yet met the conditions for attaining independence.

Namibia is an illegally occupied and colonized country, and we do not believe that the Namibian people will let themselves be deceived by the maneuver. We think they will not give up but will continue their just struggle for their inalienable right to national independence, under the leadership of SWAPO, which enjoys the support and solidarity of all peace- and freedom-loving peoples, among whom the People's Republic of Angola is on the frontline of their supporters. [applause] There is no doubt that the only way to overcome the existing critical situation in Namibia is based on achieving a cease-fire agreement between the belligerent parties and holding free elections under the control of the United Nations in accordance with Resolution 435.

Furthermore, the Pretoria regime's desperate attempt to break its isolation and to reduce the impact of international condemnation by means of the farce of the so-called referendum it recently staged in order to present a facade of making a constitutional change is a great (?illusion). The rights of the vast majority of South African people have not been taken into consideration. How can the struggle and violence in South Africa come to an end without the abolition of apartheid, which pushes aside more than 20 million people only because they are black?

The Pretoria regime must not search for the causes of its internal problems outside its borders. The struggle of the oppressed and exploited people of South Africa, which is no longer the struggle of the black South African people alone, is the result of a profound social injustice which affects more than 20 million people. In fact, the electoral farce which the racist regime ended up holding could not have taken place if it were not for that internal struggle. It is also the result of the growing popular pressure and the struggle being waged by the South African patriots of the ANC. Therefore, we do not accept the arguments used by South Africa to wage an undeclared war of occupation

and destabilization against the sovereign countries of southern Africa, particularly against the People's Republic of Angola.

Dear comrades and fellow countrymen, on this glorious occasion we cannot but recall all those who have contributed to make this anniversary possible, particularly the late President Agostinho Neto, who led the struggle for liberation with foresight and courage against the pressure of the imperialist war of aggression and declared our independence to the world. His historic role must be always recalled as a source of inspiration so that we pursue the fight against the enemies and build the socialist fatherland, for which many valuable comrades have fallen.

Our victory was possible because the MPLA knew how to unite all Angolans under one banner, the struggle for independence, social justice, and equality regardless of race, tribe, or religious creed. Our power [words indistinct] will always be based on party unity, the party's clear principles, national unity, and unity of the people as a whole. Let us, therefore, strenghten our unity as we struggle. Let us organize the armed defense of the people to defend the revolution.

On your behalf and on behalf of myself and the leadership of our party, I would like to take this opportunity to convey a special greeting to the Angolan combatants and the internationalists, who in their trenches, barracks, and defense and security units unselfishly fulfill the sacred duty of defending the fatherland and the revolution. [applause]

MIG-17 Crashes in Huambo; Pilot Killed

MB160810 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 16 Nov 83

[Text] A MIG-17 fighter bomber crashed in the city of Huambo yesterday due to a technical fault. The aircraft's pilot, Captain (Agostino Toi), was killed. The People's Air Force of Angola-Air Defense Command conveys its condolences to the grieving family and announces that the funeral of the (?unfortunate) comrade will be announced in due course.

600 UNITA Members Killed in Mussende Offensive

MB131030 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 13 Nov 83

[Text] Some 600 UNITA counterrevolutionaries have been killed during an offensive by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola in the Mussende region of Cuanza Sul Province in the last days of October. Mussende, a small agricultural town, was kept under the terror of the puppets for 4 months, during which the counterrevolutionaries committed all sorts of crimes against the local residents. A few days after the area was liberated and while hot pursuit operations against the puppets were in progress in the forests, Defense Minister Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale visited the headquarters of the municipality where he saw the residents and presided over a rally.

Dos Santos Attends Vigilance Groups Ceremony

MB142000 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] Yesterday and the day before, the people's vigilance brigades established in Luanda were presented to the population in a number of wards of Luanda. The most significant of the past 2 days' presentation ceremonies was held yesterday at Samba municipality, Luanda where the president of the party and the republic, in his capacity as the deputy chairman of the People's Assembly, gave encouragement to the 4th Brigade of (?the vigilantes) of Samba municipality. The ceremony was marked by an explanation of the regulations and immediate duties of the vigilance brigades. This was followed by the swearing in of vigilantes and the symbolic presentation by comrade president of [words indistinct] to the coordinator of the 4th Brigade.

In his speech, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, after hailing the vigilantes and wishing them successes in carrying out their tasks, clearly explained the importance of the newest vigilantes to improving the security of (?the state) and our people. The chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola called for broader mobilization work within the people's vigilance brigades and among the Organization of Angolan Women and MPLA youth, for, as he pointed out, it is only possible to carry out broader political work with our people's support. As for the negative results of some sectors of the national economy, the supreme Angolan leader stressed the need for political courage and complete dedication to solving the problems of the people [words indistinct]. Recapitulating, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said that, despite the difficulties facing our country, it is only possible to work, as he pointed out, if we rely on our own efforts and if we go on working and making more efforts.

Similar ceremonies were held at (Licheira) under the chairmanship of Comrade (Juliao Mateus Paulo Dino Matross), at (Madrugal) under the chairmanship of Comrade Andre Pitra Petroff, and at (Kazamba Kashi) residential area under the chairmanship of Comrade Alexandre Rodrigues Kito. The vigilance brigades will work closely with the population toward two goals: first, to administer and organize and, second, to implement the tasks aimed at protecting the nationals and ensuring order and public stability.

UNITA Central Committee Issues Communique

MB141900 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 13 Nov 83

[Communique issued by UNITA Central Committee at "UNITA central base" on 31 October]

[Text] 1. The August 1983 UNITA offensive achieved all of its objectives, particularly with regard to the placement of UNITA in the country's northern provinces, notably Cuanza Sul, Cuanza Norte, and Malange. The Russians and the Cubans in a panic sent another 5,000 Cubans to Angola to save the illegitimate regime of the MPLA chieftains. With this group of reinforcements, the Cuban expeditionary force in our country now

totals 45,000 men. In addition, over 100 T-34 and T-55 tanks, BTR armored cars, BRDM-21's, helicopters, and MIG's were sent to Angola to boost the morale of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], which has reached its lowest ebb ever in FAPLA's brief existence.

2. The Cubans and FAPLA have launched a large-scale offensive against UNITA positions in Malange, Cuanza Norte, Cuanza Sul, and Benguela using tanks, helicopters, and MIG's. The enemy has shelled civilian villages with napalm and other toxic substances, and at the same time massacred peasants who support UNITA resistance to our country's occupation by the Russians and Cubans. Behind the cover of a curfew in Bie and Huambo Provinces, the Cubans and the MPLA have arrested and tortured the residents there in pursuit of UNITA activists. The MPLA has even arrested a number of elements belonging to the People's Defense Organization — the MPLA paramilitary force — and accused them of being UNITA activists.

3. From 14-28 October 1983 the members of the Central Committee and the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] visited our military units in Cuando Cubango, Bie, and Moxico Provinces. They will shortly go on the offensive there or be transferred to other operational zones. The party and FALA delegation was led by the president of the party and the commander in chief of FALA and included Brigadier Miguel Nzau Puna, the secretary general of the party; Colonel (Albino Sapalale), the commander of the General Directorate of Logistics; Brigadier (Geraldo Domingos), FALA general political commissar; (Smart Chatta), the party secretary for mobilization; and Colonel (Paulo Bengo), the commander of the [word indistinct] front. The party and FALA delegation was accompanied by two world famous journalists, namely (Phillip Satna) of the French periodical *LE POINT* and an American, Dr Jack Wheeler, of *READER'S DIGEST*. These foreign journalists have returned to their respective countries where they will bear witness to FALA morale and the people's enthusiasm under the leadership of UNITA.

4. The UNITA Central Committee has learned of the statements made by Paulo Jorge and Luis de Almeida, rejecting UNITA's offer to put an end to the bloody civilian war destroying our country. UNITA will respond to these statements in March of 1984 during the ordinary session of its Central Committee.

5. UNITA Central Committee categorically rejects all attempts to form fronts in Europe while the enemy continues to massacre the people, and UNITA is the only movement confronting the enemy with arms in hand. UNITA does not wish to be part of these fronts, which are motivated only by opportunism and not a genuine wish to fight against the Cubans in our country.

The FALA Supreme Command will issue this week the results of the Cuban offensive against UNITA in the north of the country and will reveal the date for the launching of its general offensive, which will last 6 months.

The struggle triumphs! United we will win!

The UNITA central base, 31 October 1983, year of the anti-Cuban campaign.

[Signed] Dr General Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, president of UNITA

Further Communique

MB141950 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Communique issued by the General Staff of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola at "UNITA central base" on 4 November 1983]

[Text] 1. We have learned through our military intelligence of the large-scale support which Russia gave the MPLA in September and October in order to launch the current offensive against UNITA to [words indistinct].

A. They unloaded war equipment at Luanda, Lobito, and Mocamedes ports, which was brought in 32 Russian, Greek, and Yugoslav ships.

B. They landed 12 T-62 tanks, (?12) T-54 tanks, 20 T-34 tanks, 12 FA-8 missiles, 12 Mi-24 helicopters, 10 BM-21's with 122-mm rockets, 18 floating bridges, 8 ECAC with their respective radars, more than 4 patrol gunboats, and transport vehicles and small arms.

2. The offensive, which is under way at this moment against UNITA in the Provinces of Malanje, Cuanza Norte, Cuanza Sul, Benguela, Huila, Huambo, Bie, and Cuando Cubango, involves a total of 35,000 men of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], 8,000 Cubans, the entire People's Defense Organization [ODP] throughout the provinces affected by the offensive, 3,000 SWAPO soldiers in the areas of Kalulo and Mussende, 1,000 ANC soldiers in the areas of (Pinza Ndongo), Malanje, 23 helicopters, 12 MIG's, and 7 Antonov-26 aircraft. This offensive is led by General (Valentinov) and Colonel (Ferri).

A. As of this writing, the results of the enemy offensive and UNITA counteroffensive are as follows: 3 helicopters shot down, 1 Antonov-26 shot down, 9 assault trucks destroyed, 62 trucks destroyed in ambushes and by landmines, 317 FAPLA soldiers killed and 49 taken prisoner, 89 FAPLA and ODP soldiers surrendered to UNITA, 412 small arms captured, and 1,247,000 rounds of ammunition of various calibers captured. UNITA lost 72 men and suffered 118 wounded and 2 missing.

B. UNITA forces throughout the country are involved in a general offensive which has been under the personal direction of the supreme FALA commander as of 0000 hours on 3 November 1983, and it will continue until April 1984. UNITA forces are now fighting in the provinces of Luanda, Bengo, and Uige.

3. UNITA condemns in the most vehement terms the statement of the self-proclaimed frontline countries threatening foreign journalists who have visited the liberated areas of Angola under effective UNITA control. In order to console those countries, UNITA reports that from August-October this year, it received 10 foreign journalists and will invite as many foreign journalists as may wish to come to report on the offensive. The

torture which is rampant in Luanda and the expulsion of foreign journalists from the MPLA areas are no incentive to a free press. The truth cannot be concealed with expulsions, high-sounding communiques, or even with collective threats from frontline countries.

The struggle triumphs! United we will win!

[Signed] Chief of the General Staff, Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila

BOTSWANA

Angolan Delegation Discusses Trade Agreement

MB151400 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] A six-man delegation from the People's Republic of Angola discussed trade matters with Botswana officials during a recent visit to Botswana. An announcement from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said during the 6-day stay the Angolan team also discussed the draft trade agreement. It was also announced that a protocol on the supply of beef by Botswana to Angola for a 5-year period from 1984 was also discussed and signed with the Ministry of Agriculture. The announcement added that the Angolans also visited the Botswana Meat Commission, where they held fruitful discussions with the abattoir management on the sale of beef to Angola.

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister Sends Message to RSA on Shooting

MB141204 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, The Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, today sent a personal message to the South African foreign minister following an incident this morning in which elements of the so-called Lesotho Liberation Army, LLA, opened fire into Lesotho territory in the Butha Buthe district from a South African farm owned by a certain farmer, (Steyn). Reports from (Makhonuane) indicate that the South African-based terror group had planted a land mine on the road to (Makhonuane) very near the Lesotho-South Africa border. When members of the police bomb disposal squad tried to defuse it, the terrorists fired on them from the South African farm.

In his message the Lesotho foreign minister draws the attention of the South African foreign minister to the incident and the serious situation of cross-border violations that have been carried out from South African soil, especially in the Butha Buthe area. Minister Sekhonyana requested his South African counterpart to intervene in the matter. No reply has yet been received from the South African authorities.

NAMIBIA

Harare: SWAPO Rejects Invitation to Windhoek Summit

MB131234 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 13 Nov 83

[Text] SWAPO has rejected an invitation to take part in a meeting of neocolonial parties which aims to draft a so-called pre-independence constitution. SWAPO, which has waged a war for the freedom of Namibia against the South African-backed regime in the territory, says that the planned meeting in Windhoek yesterday could develop into another South African-manipulated interim government and will further stall independence initiatives. There are seven minority parties in Namibia all [words indistinct] opposed to SWAPO. Yesterday the SWAPO leader, Comrade Sam Nujoma, attended a meeting of the frontline leaders in Lusaka, where they rejected any linkage of the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola to the independence of Namibia.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Comments on UK Counterpart's Statement

MB151840 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, says it is easy for the British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, to philosophize about solutions for peace in southern Africa, knowing that Britain does not have to pay the price should things go wrong. Mr Botha was commenting on a statment by Sir Geoffrey that South Africa's failure to scrap apartheid could lead to greater opportunities for Soviet intervention in southern Africa. Sir Geoffrey also warned South Africa not to deceive itself about punitive raids and what he described as destabilization of neighboring states.

Mr Botha said in Pretoria today that Sir Geoffrey did not bear the responsibility for the well-being and economic development of the peoples of southern Africa. Whatever Sir Geoffrey's sources of information on South Africa were, it was clear that there was room for improvement regarding the facts on which he based his opinion. Mr Botha said Sir Geoffrey was apparently unaware of the fact that South Africa had offered to enter into nonsubversion treaties with its neighbors. The British foreign secretary appeared to be equally unaware that South Africa's neighbors were hesitant to accept South Africa's offer.

Manpower Minister Resigns From Cabinet 15 Nov

MB151617 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1612 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 15, SAPA — The minister of manpower and leader of the House of Assembly, Mr Fanie Botha, has resigned from the cabinet. "It is with regret that I announce I have handed my resignation as minister of state to the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and that he has accepted it," he said in a statement

in Pretoria. Mr Fanie Botha said he was aware of "allegations" being made regarding his adminstration of a former department and against his person. "I naturally dispute the allegations and will take the appropriate steps," he said. The allegations being made could result in legal steps being taken and this, as well as the allegations themselves, could create embarrassment for the government. This Mr Botha wanted to avoid at all costs and it was the reason he had handed in his resignation, which was accepted by the prime minister with effect from Tuesday (November 15).

Mr Botha also said in his statement he would discuss his position as MP for Soutpansberg with his constituency's Executive Committee and then make a decision in consultation with the Transvaal leader of the National Party, Mr F.W. de Klerk. Mr Botha gave no further details of the allegations he referred to in his statement. In his letter of resignation to the prime minister, dated Monday, November 14, Mr Botha said:

"In connection with the events which now seriously question my position in the cabinet, I ask you to accept my resignation as a member of your cabinet." After paying tribute to Mr P.W. Botha's leadership and assuring him of his loyal support at all times, Mr Fanie Botha ended by saying: "Forgive me the error (misstep) which obliges me to take these steps."

In his letter accepting the resignation, dated Tuesday, November 15, Mr P.W. Botha said he had received Mr Fanie Botha's letter with regret and informed the state president, Mr Marais Viljoen. "I accept your resignation as of today, after your personal explanation to me and your other colleagues. You have delivered great service to your party, to the country and to the state over the years. It just so happens that a single unpleasant event casts a shadow over the constructive contribution of a person's life. But the fact that you now also put the interests of the government and your party first does you credit," the prime minister said. "We live in times when extreme demands are made of public figures and your resignation shows you realise this." He thanked Mr Fanie Botha for his positive contributions and loyalty in the past, and wished him and his family prosperity in the future.

In his statement, Mr Fanie Botha said the step he had taken followed a long and happy career in public life in which he had tried to make a modest contribution to the evolutionary process of development of meaningful human relations in South Africa, particularly in the labour field. "Everyone's attention must now be directed undividely at the constitutional development, especially now that the first milestone has been reached with the referendum. I sincerely thank the prime minister for the privilege of being able to serve in his winning team, and I pay tribute to his statemanship and his distinguished leadership," he said. "It is my opinion that I must now also consider my position in the senior ranks of the Executive of the (National) Party in the Transvaal and I voluntarily distance myself from it."

He paid tribute to the support of his wife, Martina, and his family during his public life and said it had been a great privilege and experience to serve in various portfolios with the support of outstanding and loyal officials. One of his permanent impressions was that South Africa was privileged to have an extremely capable public service — something not everyone appreciated.

Minister Meets Colored Leaders on Constitution
MB141850 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Text] The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, has said that the government will not try to prescribe to the Colored leaders how the opinion of the Colored people on the new constitution should be tested. Mr Heunis met representatives of the Labor Party, the People's Congress, and the Freedom Party in three separate meetings in Pretoria today. The leader of the Freedom Party, Mr Charles Julies, said his party was in favor of an election among Coloreds, because a the Labor Party, and Mr Peter Marais of the People's Congress Party both expressed themselves in favor of a referendum, but they added that their parties' congresses would have to take the final decision. Our Pretoria newsdesk reports that all three Colored leaders did say that they were still willing to take part in the new constitutional deal and that threats would not drive them from that path.

Labor Party Leader Rejects Colored Conscription
MB151338 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] The leader of the Colored Labor Party has rejected Colored conscription into the Army until all South Africans are full participants in society. Alan Hendrickse says this is non-negotiable. He says as far as his party is concerned it will not agree to conscription in the new tricameral parliament. He says his party cannot condemn all of those who are fighting against South African security forces. Hendrickse was reacting to a call for a referendum from former Labor Party National Chairman David Curry. Curry said a referendum was essential because Coloreds face conscription now. In another reaction, People's Congress Party Leader Peter Marais says his party beleives that there should be conscription for everyone who obtained full citizenship.

Durban Rally Rejects New Constitution, SAIC
MB151010 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 15 Nov 83

[Text] About 5,000 people attending a rally in Durban have rejected the constitutional proposals and the South African Natal and Transvaal Indian congresses, and among the speakers was Alan Boesak. Another speaker was Natal Indian Council [NIC] Executive Member and United Democratic Front National Treasurer Mewa Ramgobin.

[Begin Ramgobin recording] We will not allow our children to be drafted into an army that is going to defend the profane acts — the pass laws, bantustans, economic exploitation, hunger and disease, inadequate housing, high rent, and above all white privilege. [end recording]

Ramgobin addressed the meeting shortly after being released from police custody. He was among 44 people arrested outside the Durban City Hall yesterday. They were arrested during a placard demonstration against the constitutional proposals and a

meeting at the city hall organized by the SAIC which was addressed by Prime Minister Pieter Botha. The 44 are to appear in court this morning, and a police spokesperson has confirmed they will face charges in terms of Section 47 of the Internal Security Act which deals with illegal gatherings. Also arrested was virtually the entire Executive of the NIC, but some were later released on bail and were able to attend the anticonstitution rally.

SWAZILAND

New Elected Members of Parliament Announced

MB140839 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 14 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] All the 40 elected members of the new Parliament were named by the Electoral Committee this morning. There are a number of new faces. The Prime Minister, Prince Bhekimpi scored the highest vote with all the 80 Electoral College members having voted for him. Lubuli cotton farmer, Derick Von Wissel, and Nhlangano shop owner, John Charles McSeveney, and a Manzini medical doctor, Dr Virginia Dlamini, scored 77 votes each. Princes Pholile and Dr Fannie Friedman scored 76 votes each. The Deputy Minister for Commerce, Industries, Mines and Tourism [H.D. Nhlabatsi] scored 70 votes. Mr Nhlabatsi and the Prime Minister were the only two Cabinet Ministers who have been elected to the new parliament by the college. The rest of the new MP's are:

Chief Hhobohhobo Dlamini (69).
Chief Mantungwani Ndlangamandla (67).
Mr O.Z. Dlamini (67).
Chief Nhloko Zwane (65).
Frank Madevu Litchfield (64).
Chief Sibengwane Ndzimandze (64).
Manyakaza Dlamini (63).
Isaw Matse (63).
Naphtal Mahlalela (63).
Phenyane Ernest Mamba (62).
Chief Malamlela Magagula (61).
Stephen Matsebula (61).
Aaron V. Mkhwanazi (61).
Dr Sishayi Nxumalo (59).
Hezekiel Sipho Mamba (58).
Rev. Andreas Msibi (57).
Chief Cetshwayo Mndzebele (57).
Mvembili Job Maseko (56).
Zibunu Zeblon Fakudze (56).
Rev. Thomas Ndlovu (56).
Martin Buya Mdziniso (56).
Peter Shovela Munro (56).
Abraham Nkonyane (56).
Rev. Barnabas Lusekwane Mndzebele (55).
Khisimusi Clement Mahlalela (54).
Sikhova Simelane (54).
Majalimane Nkambule (52).
Ephraim F. Magagula (52).
Samson Msunduzeni Dlamini (52).
Joseph Nduna Mamba (50).
Chief Madzanga Ndwandwe (50).
Malaveni Ginindza (49).
Gilbert Lukhele (48).

Another 10 MP's are still to be named by the Queen Regent making a total of 50 members of the House of Assembly.

ZIMBABWE

Radio Truth Says Bishop Tortured, Appeals to West

MB140955 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 14 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] We understand that Bishop Abel Muzorewa has been secretly moved to the Central Intelligence Organization [CIO] interrogation center at Goromonzi. This being the case, we would like Zimbabweans of all races to join us in praying for the bishop, because he has truly passed through the gates of Hell. He is now in the hands of thieves who work in darkness and to whom other people's pain is sheer pleasure.

There was a time when the CIO was a dedicated and honorable arm of government. Now like so much that was once fine, it has become an instrument of terror in the hands of ZANU-PF. Bishop Muzorewa is not the first nor will he be the last to pass through the hands of the tormentors of the CIO. We would ask Zimbabweans in advance to understand that Bishop Muzorewa is now undergoing tortures beyond our understanding, and that any confessions wrung from him are to be treated in that light. No doubt the beast of Bulawayo, (Rogers Mutonga), Mugabe's supreme tormentor, is even now doing his best to ensure the bishop signs a full and imaginative confession.

We would request all Zimbabweans to contact foreign Western embassies in Harare, demanding the release of the bishop. We have given you the addresses of international groups who will help if they have the facts. Contact them and anyone else whom you think might help. There is no thought in the minds of ZANU-PF for the release of Bishop Muzorewa under their own volition. They must be driven to it by all the pressure we as a nation can bring to bear. Act now in the name of humanity and of Christianity.